

Chicago Tribune



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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2025

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Guard deployment moves ahead



Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson holds a signed executive order restricting federal immigration actions from designated areas in the city Monday at the Westside Justice Center. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Judge declines state's suit to block Trump call-up

By Dan Petrella, Jeremy Gornier, Olivia Olander and Jonathan Bullington
Chicago Tribune

Hundreds of National Guard troops could be deployed in the Chicago region as soon as Tuesday after a federal judge declined to issue an immediate order blocking President Donald Trump's moves to activate Guard members over the objections of Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker and scores of local officials.

The decision from U.S. District Judge April Perry, over strenuous objections from the Illinois attorney general's office, came in a hearing hours after the state and the city of Chicago filed a lawsuit Monday morning seeking to prevent the use of Guard forces from Illinois and Texas for what the White House claims is an effort to protect federal immigration personnel and facilities amid the Trump administration's escalated deportation actions.

Attorneys for the federal government said during a brief court hearing Monday afternoon that Texas National Guard units were in transit to Illinois and weren't expected to "begin getting into position to perform federal protective missions until tomorrow at the earliest." Illinois Guard members have been ordered to report Tuesday. The federal government is uncertain when it will be ready for its "federal protective mission," Trump administration attorneys told Perry.

The Trump administration's Defense Department has moved in recent days to federalize 300 members of the Illinois National Guard, despite Pritzker's opposition, as well as 400 Guard members from Texas. Approximately half of the Guard members from Texas are expected to be sent to Illinois, with the support of Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott.

Absent a legal order blocking their deployment, like the ones a federal judge in Oregon issued over the weekend barring the federal-

Turn to Deployment, Page 2

Mayor Johnson calls for 'dramatic' response ahead of imminent National Guard deployment

By Alice Yin and Jake Sheridan
Chicago Tribune

Mayor Brandon Johnson delivered forceful rhetoric Monday against what he dubbed President Donald Trump's "war on Chicago," but offered few concrete answers about how to stop it ahead of an expected deployment of hundreds of National Guard troops to the area in support of the federal government's deportation campaign targeting the nation's third-largest city.

Speaking at a news conference on the West Side in which he signed an executive order he said would deter U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Johnson told Chicagoans to stand together against the White House's mounting threats of a military occupation.

His latest line in the sand came after weeks of roiling standoffs between federal immigration agents and protesters in Chicago and Broadview, where a suburban ICE facility has become ground zero for the local response against

Trump's "Operation Midway" deportation blitz.

"In the coming days and weeks, we may be pushed, if not forced, to take even more dramatic action if this administration continues to escalate and provoke our people," Johnson told reporters. Pressed to elaborate, he said, "Everything. Everything, whatever is necessary to ensure that we're protecting people."

The city and state's struggle against the White House's efforts

Turn to Response, Page 4

MORE COVERAGE

■ A woman shot by an immigration agent after she allegedly rammed his vehicle on Chicago's Southwest Side over the weekend was ordered released from jail. **Chicagoland, Page 3**

■ An alleged high-ranking Chicago gang member has been charged with soliciting the murder of U.S. Border Patrol field boss Gregory Bovino, the commander of the Trump administration's ongoing immigration enforcement push. **Page 2**

Chicago police will respond to federal calls for help, Snelling says

By Caroline Kubzansky and Gregory Royal Pratt
Chicago Tribune

Chicago police Superintendent Larry Snelling on Monday said officers would respond to any call of a crime being committed following uproar over his department's role in the aftermath of two alleged hit-and-runs and a shooting on Chicago's Southwest Side Saturday that involved federal agents.

"We want to make sure when we show up, we're keeping every single person in this city safe, and we want to keep the peace," he said.

Snelling spent about 10 minutes of the 50-minute news conference defending Chief of Patrol Jon Hein

following furor over a Saturday dispatch attributed to Hein that "no units would respond" to a call for assistance from armed Border Patrol agents who said they were in the middle of a crowd in Brighton Park following the traffic crashes and shooting.

The resulting internet furor to the computer message, attributed to Hein and quickly picked up among right-wing social media commentators, highlighted a tricky balance that CPD leaders must strike in keeping with Chicago's self-declared sanctuary city status: officers may not assist federal immigration author-

Turn to Snelling, Page 4



Federal agents launch gas near Chicago police while attempting to control a group of protesters near the 3900 block of South Kedzie Avenue on Saturday in Chicago's Brighton Park neighborhood. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Walgreens to exit Old Post Office

The news comes shortly after the sale of the company to a private equity firm. **Business**

Trump open to deal on health care

Democrats have made health care subsidies central to the shutdown fight. **Nation & World**

Israel and Hamas negotiate on Gaza war

Indirect talks align with 2nd anniversary of Oct. 7 terror attack

By Samy Magdy, Melanie Lidman and Wafaa Shurafa
Associated Press

CAIRO — Israeli and Hamas officials launched indirect talks Monday at an Egyptian resort on

a U.S.-drafted peace plan to end the ruinous war in Gaza on the eve of its second anniversary.

Many uncertainties remain about the plan presented by U.S. President Donald Trump last week, including the disarmament of the militant group — a key Israeli demand — and the future governance of Gaza. Trump has indicated that an agreement on Gaza could pave the way for a Middle East peace process that

could reshape the region.

Despite Trump ordering Israel to stop the bombing, Israeli forces continued to pound Gaza with airstrikes, killing at least 19 people late Sunday into Monday, the territory's Health Ministry said.

An Egyptian official said talks began Monday afternoon at the Red Sea resort Sharm el-Sheikh. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak publicly

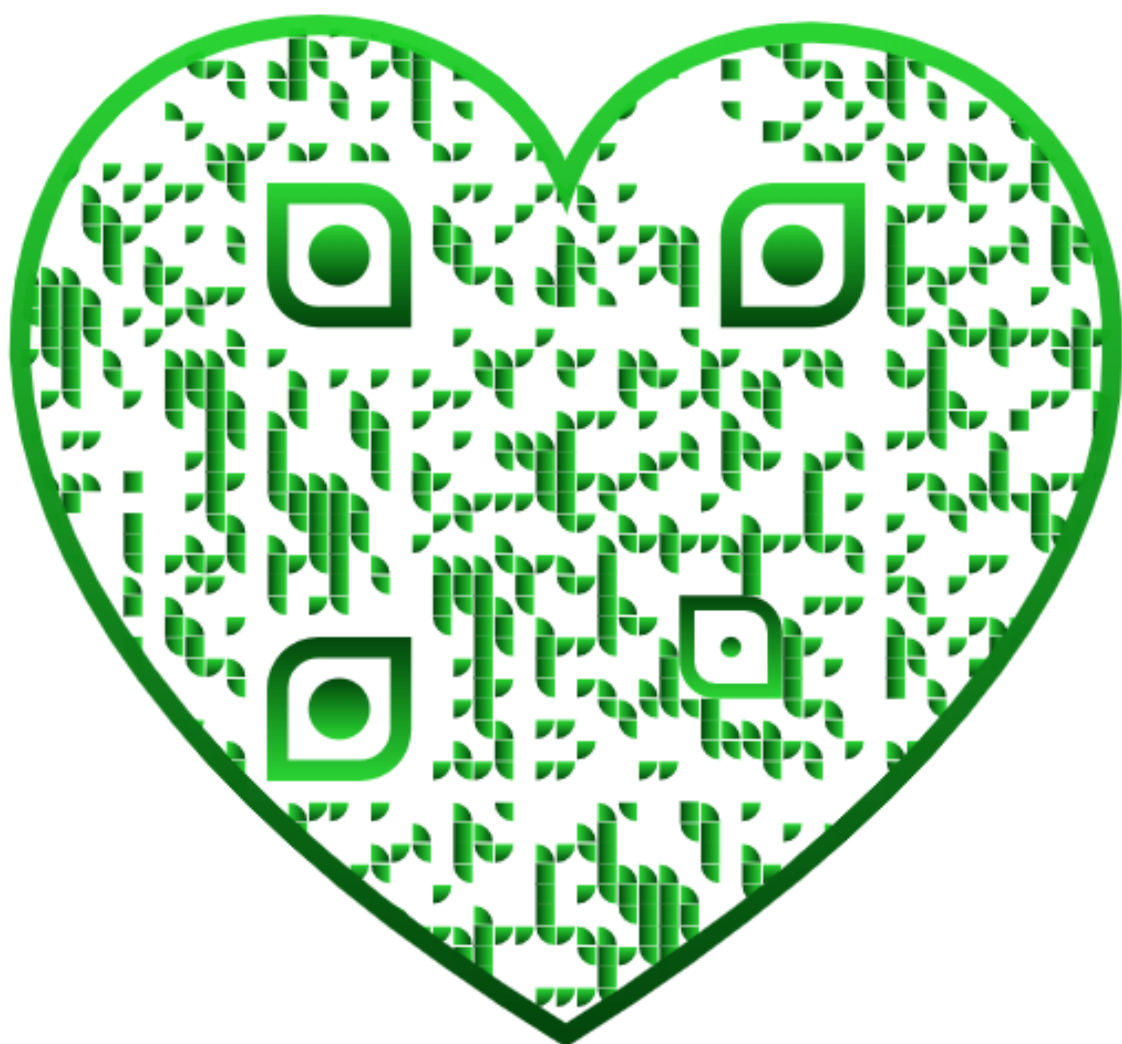
about the talks.

The Israelis are led by top negotiator Ron Dermer, while Khalil al-Hayyah leads the Hamas delegation.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said foreign policy adviser Ophir Falk would be present for Israel, but it was not clear whether Dermer had arrived yet.

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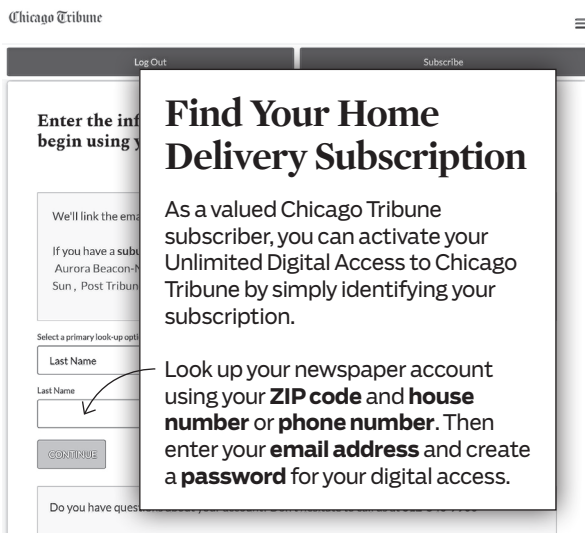
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Tribune books

“Dinner at Home” Cooking at home doesn’t have to be difficult, but it should always be delicious. Since 2007, JeanMarie Brownson, culinary director for Rick Bayless’ Frontera Foods, has been helping readers put inventive, yet simple, dishes on the table through her Dinner at Home column for the Tribune. Her book includes everything you need to create spectacular food any day of the week, including sample menus and recipes for everything from prosciutto Parmesan puffs to roasted chicken with tomat-to-olive relish. Dinner at home has never been better.

“Capone: A Photographic Portrait of America’s Most Notorious Gangster.” Using many never-before-published photographs and newspaper clippings from the Tribune’s archives, this coffee-table book chronicles the rise and fall of Al Capone.

“Ask Amy: Advice for Better Living” For over a decade, Amy Dickinson has been the Tribune’s signature general advice columnist, helping readers with questions both personal and pressing. This book, which collects columns from 2011 to 2013, is a testament to the empathetic counsel and practical common-sense tips that Dickinson has been distilling for years.

“Culture Worrier: Reflections on Race, Politics and Social Change.” Clarence Page’s newest book commemorates the 30th anniversary of his column’s first appearance in the Tribune. It is the first such collection of the Pulitzer Prize winner’s columns, covering topics such as politics, social issues, pop culture, race, family, new media and prominent figures, as well as his personal life.

“10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything.” You may never need to know the human body contains a half-pound of salt, but that’s just one of the obscure facts you’ll find about sports, history, religion, politics, arts and culture, food and leisure, and science and technology in this collection of columns from Mark Jacob and Stephan Benzkofe.

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Accuracy and ethics

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Corrections and clarifications: Publishing information quickly and accurately is a central part of the Chicago Tribune’s news responsibility.

■ A headline on Monday’s Page 1 misstated the Chicago Sports Network’s acronym. The network’s acronym is CHSN. The Tribune regrets the error.

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Feds: Chicago gang member solicited murder of Border Patrol chief Bovino

By Jason Meisner
Chicago Tribune

An alleged high-ranking Chicago gang member has been charged with soliciting the murder of U.S. Border Patrol field boss Gregory Bovino, the tough-talking commander at the forefront of the Trump administration’s ongoing immigration enforcement push “Operation Midway Blitz.”

Juan Espinoza Martinez, 37, of Chicago, was arrested Monday morning and charged in a criminal complaint unsealed Monday with one count of solicitation of murder-for-hire. A court appearance has not yet been set, and it was unclear if Martinez had a lawyer.

According to the complaint, Martinez, a ranking member of the Latin Kings, told a law enforcement source after an immigration agent shot a woman in the Brighton Park neighborhood “that he had dispatched members of the Latin Kings to the area

of the 39th and Kedzie ... in response to the shooting.”

That area in Brighton Park has historically been controlled by the Two-Six gang, which is one of the Latin Kings’ chief rivals.

On Sunday, the source showed a screenshot to law enforcement that had been sent to him by Martinez depicting a conversation Martinez had with an unknown individual, according to the complaint. In that conversation, Martinez allegedly said “lets get some guys out here bro.” The other person wrote back, “Let one of us be infront with the (green gun emoji)” the complaint stated.

The law enforcement source also shared Snapchat messages that Martinez had sent him saying, “2k on information when you get him” and “10k if u take him down,” according to the complaint.

The message also stated “LK on him,” which was a reference to the Latin Kings, the complaint alleged.

Deployment

from Page 1

ization of Guard troops from that state or any other, it wasn’t clear what more Illinois officials could do to shield the state from the incursion. Pritzker has long said that the law would be on the state’s side in deterring such a deployment, but as of late Monday, it appeared that the troops would arrive in Illinois before a court intervened.

While Perry, whom Democratic President Joe Biden appointed to the bench, said she was “very troubled” by the Trump administration’s inability to answer questions, such as where in Illinois the Guard members would be sent, she said she was not able to rule on the state’s request to temporarily block the deployment without first reading the voluminous court filings. Perry gave the Trump administration until midnight Wednesday to respond to the state’s arguments.

Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul during a news conference Monday, which was held at the same time as the federal court hearing, said his office moved as swiftly as possible to bring the state’s case against Trump.

“I’ve known of talk of the Illinois National Guard for weeks, but it was not ripe for filing,” he said, saying that over the weekend the situation was in flux.

“Facts evolve, and so we filed a lawsuit not in a rush to just say that we’re responding but we work hard to make sure it’s right — it’s right by the law. It’s right by the facts,” Raoul said. “I don’t want to file a lawsuit that’s merely dismissed because it’s not ripe for filing.”

Still, in court, the state argued for the importance of immediately blocking a deployment — which could last at least 60 days, according to federal documents — before the arrival of troops.

“When they set foot here, the sovereign injury grows only greater,” said Christopher Wells, public interest division chief with the Illinois attorney general’s office. “That is the urgency. ... We believe the (temporary restraining order) must happen right now. If there are troops in transit, they must go home right now.”

Pritzker continued his full-throated opposition to Trump’s proposed use of military troops in the state.

“There is no invasion here. There is no insurrection here. Local and state law enforcement are on the job and managing what they need to,” Pritzker said. “Donald Trump is using our service members as political props and as pawns in his illegal effort to militarize our nation’s cities.”

Speaking to reporters in the Oval Office on Monday, Trump suggested he could invoke the Insurrection Act if needed to sidestep court orders or uncooperative officials.

“If I had to enact it, I’d do it, if people were being killed and courts were holding us up, or governors or mayors were holding us up,” he said. In its 69-page filing, Raoul’s

office asked the federal court to find the federalization and deployment of National Guard troops unconstitutional and to block Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth from deploying troops to the state over Pritzker’s objections. Late Sunday, Hegseth authorized sending 400 National Guard troops from Texas to Illinois, Oregon and potentially other states.

“The Trump administration’s illegal actions already have subjected and are subjecting Illinois to serious and irreparable harm. The deployment of federalized National Guard, including from another state, infringes on Illinois’s sovereignty and right to self-governance,” the filing stated. “It will cause only more unrest, including harming social fabric and community relations and increasing the mistrust of police. It also creates economic harm, depressing business activities and tourism that not only hurt Illinoisans but also hurt Illinois’s tax revenue.”

A White House spokeswoman repeated that Trump was exercising “his lawful authority to protect federal officers and assets.”

Given Trump’s weekslong flirtation with sending troops to Chicago and his shifting rationale, which at first was ostensibly about combating violent crime in the city but has since turned to protecting immigration enforcement operations amid the administration’s “Operation Midway Blitz,” “the manufactured nature of the crisis is clear,” the state argued in its filing.

“The American people, regardless of where they reside, should not live under the threat of occupation by the United States military, particularly not simply because their city or state leadership has fallen out of a president’s favor,” the Illinois attorney general’s office wrote.

The state’s filing noted Trump’s long history of “threatening and derogatory statements toward” Illinois and Chicago, as well as city and state leaders, dating to even before he entered the 2016 presidential race.

“The supposed current emergency is belied by the fact that Trump’s Chicago troop deployment threats began more than ten years ago,” the state argued. “In a social media post from 2013 Trump writes ‘we need our troops on the streets of Chicago, not in Syria.’”

The animus toward Illinois and Chicago carried through his first term in the White House and his time out of office into his second term, the state argued, culminating in a Sept. 30 address to top military brass at the Pentagon in which Trump informed the gathered generals that he’d told Hegseth, “We should use some of these dangerous cities as training grounds for our military National Guard, but military, because we’re going into Chicago very soon.”

In arguing its case, the attorney general’s office pointed to recent court decisions in federal court in Oregon, where a judge Trump appointed to the

The law enforcement source has a prior conviction for a “violent offense” but is not currently under any investigation, stated the complaint, which added the source “may be assisting law enforcement in the hopes of future payment.”

Included in the message was a photo of Bovino, who has recently participated in immigration enforcement operations in Chicago on behalf of the U.S. Border Patrol, according to a law enforcement source and the complaint, which identifies Bovino only as a senior Border Patrol official.

The complaint stated law enforcement had Martinez under surveillance Saturday as he drove his red 2014 Ford pickup truck in the area of 24th Street and South Drake Avenue, which is “known to be Latin Kings territory.”

“Putting a price on the life of a law enforcement officer is an attack on the rule of law,” Chicago U.S. Attorney Andrew Boutros said in a statement announcing the

charges. “The defendant’s actions in this case demonstrate a profound contempt for human life and public safety.”

Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche said the allegations were an “attack on the rule of law and on every American who depends on law enforcement to keep them safe.”

Bovino, the buzz-cut, fatigues-wearing chief, has been one of the key public faces of the Midway Blitz operation, with social media posts and interviews on the ground that have painted the immigration sweep in militaristic terms.

Since arriving in Chicago in mid-September, Bovino has been present at several high-profile raids, including a large-scale operation in the South Shore neighborhood last week that involved dozens of agents, helicopters and flash-bang grenades.

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bench has issued two orders blocking the federalization of that state’s Guard and subsequently the deployment of Guard members from neighboring California or any other state.

In his memo, Hegseth informed Texas officials that Trump had “authorized me to coordinate with you on the mobilization of up to 400 members of the Texas National Guard” under Title 10, which allows state Guard troops to be placed under federal command under orders “issued through the governor.”

In a social media post Sunday night, Abbott, who has clashed repeatedly with Pritzker over the past several years, wrote: “You can either fully enforce protection for federal employees or get out of the way and let Texas Guard do it.”

At the heart of the conflict over deploying troops to Illinois is the Trump administration’s assertion that an emergency exists, warranting such action.

The move also comes against the backdrop of Trump’s long-running criticism of Illinois and Chicago laws that prohibit law enforcement from cooperating with federal authorities in enforcing civil immigration matters. Earlier this year, a federal judge in Chicago dismissed a lawsuit from the administration challenging those policies.

Recently, the administration has pointed to incidents, including heated protests outside its U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement processing facility in west suburban Broadview, to justify its use of troops. In a Sept. 26 memo to the Defense Department, Homeland Security requested 100 troops to help protect the ICE facilities in Illinois from “coordinated assault by violent groups.”

In his weekend memo calling up Texas Guard members, Hegseth wrote, “On October 4, 2025, the President determined that violent incidents, as well as the credible threat of continued violence, are impeding the execution of the laws of the United States in Illinois, Oregon, and other locations throughout the United States.”

But in its court filing Monday, the state reiterated the position Pritzker, Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson and other Democratic leaders have taken since Trump raised the specter of a deployment in late summer, arguing that no such emergency exists and that using military personnel as the administration has proposed would violate the Posse Comitatus Act, which prohibits the use of federal troops for civilian law enforcement.

In the lawsuit and public comments, Illinois officials have blasted federal authorities for instigating conflicts, including through the use of “abusive tactics” against protesters and others in Broadview.

“Far from lawless riots, the Broadview protests have been small, primarily peaceful, and unfortunately escalated by DHS’s own conduct, seemingly for the goal of using them as a pretext for the Chicago troop deploy-

ment that was announced by Trump long ago,” the state argued in its filing.

The state lawsuit also turned the Trump administration’s braggadocio to undermine its argument that troops are necessary, citing statements touting the successes of recent immigration enforcement activities and a “confident show of force” on Sept. 28, during which “dozens of DHS agents dressed in tactical gear and carrying semi-automatic rifles walked the streets of downtown,” as evidence that no emergency exists that would require the deployment of federalized troops.

In a show of unity, U.S. Sens. Dick Durbin and Tammy Duckworth, a veteran wounded in combat in Iraq, and all 14 Democratic members of the state’s congressional delegation sent a letter to Trump that urged the president to reverse course.

Appearing with Pritzker, Raoul and other officials at the Monday afternoon news conference, Johnson argued that with the deployment, Trump has “declared war” on the city and state. The presence of troops will harm the local economy and the crime-fighting efforts he credited with creating the city’s lowest homicide rate in six decades, he said.

“With today’s litigation, we send a message to the president: Chicago will not be used as a political prop. Chicago will not be intimidated. We will not be silent,” Johnson said.

Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson, also a Democrat, issued an executive order restricting protests outside the facility to the hours of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., citing “recent escalation of violence by ICE” outside the facility. She also directed a share of the blame at some protesters, citing a late Saturday demonstration that “had a very aggressive crowd of protesters.”

Last month, a federal court in California ruled that the Trump administration violated the law in its use of National Guard troops and U.S. Marines in response to protests in the Los Angeles area this summer. The ruling has been stayed pending appeal.

A picture of what a potential deployment in Illinois could look like became clearer Monday through court records and information from local officials.

Exhibits filed in the Illinois lawsuit showed Maj. Gen. Rodney Boyd, commander of the Illinois National Guard, stated on Sunday evening that he believed federal officials intended to deploy a total of 500 National Guard members to Illinois, according to a statement filed along with the lawsuit by Deputy Gov. Bria Scudder, a top Pritzker aide.

Of those, 300 would be Illinois National Guard members, while the rest would be Texas National Guard members “pulled off of border guard duty,” Scudder recounted Boyd saying.

Chicago Tribune’s Jake Sheridan, Alice Yin contributed.

CHICAGOLAND

Woman shot by agent ordered released

Lawyer: Expletive used against her in Saturday incident

By Jason Meisner
Chicago Tribune

A woman shot by an immigration agent after she allegedly rammed his vehicle on Chicago's Southwest Side over the weekend was ordered released from jail Monday following a hearing where her attorney claimed it was federal agents patrolling the city with assault rifles who were the real danger.

The incident in Brighton Park on Saturday ratcheted up an already tense atmosphere between federal law enforcement and the communities that have been subject to nearly a month of "Operation Midway Blitz," the Trump administration's ongoing immigration enforcement push.

That tension was on full display Monday at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse, where dozens of supporters of Marimar Martinez, the woman who was shot, as well as her co-defendant, Anthony Ian Santos Ruiz, packed U.S. Magistrate Judge Heather McShain's 17th floor courtroom for their initial court appearances.

A prosecutor said the actions of Martinez and Ruiz were "extremely dangerous and extremely reckless," putting both the officers and potentially innocent bystanders in harm's way.

Martinez's attorney, Christopher Parente, called into question the government's version of events, including what was captured on the body camera of one of the agents in the vehicle.

Parente, who said he'd viewed the body camera footage multiple times, revealed in court that just before the shooting, one of the agents was captured saying, "Do something, bitch," while his hands were on his assault rifle.

In asking that they both be held without bond pending trial, Assistant U.S. Attorney Sean Hennessy called the pair a danger to the community.

"They endangered one another, and they also put in danger anybody who was on



Marimar Martinez, center, is greeted by her family on Monday after being released from the Metropolitan Correctional Center after being shot by immigration agents and charged with assaulting federal officers in an incident in Chicago's Brighton Park neighborhood. **E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

the street, other motorists or people who were walking around in the wrong place at the wrong time," Hennessy said.

Hennessy said both Martinez and Ruiz were part of a convoy of cars that had been following agents as they conducted immigration enforcement operations, and that before the crash and shooting near 39th and Kedzie, Martinez had been broadcasting the pursuit on Facebook Live, "laying on her horn" and "yelling loudly" at the agents.

"This was intentional," Hennessy said. "They were not there by mistake. This was not the spur of the moment."

Parente said it was clear the agents aren't from Chicago in part because the body camera captured them butchering the street name "Kedzie."

He said the real danger comes from having trigger-happy agents in fatigues and armed with assault rifles driving around unfamiliar neighborhoods in an unmarked vehicle whose only markings were an Uber logo.

"It's crazy what's happen-

ing out there," Parente said. "It's dangerous, but it's not Ms. Martinez who is the danger."

He also said the footage showed the agent driving the vehicle suddenly "turn the wheel to the left," then jump out and "just start shooting." At least some of the five shots went through the front passenger side of Martinez's vehicle, indicating they were not being rammed head-on, Parente said.

"What I do know is, it was Ms. Martinez who has seven holes in her body from five shots from this agent, who fired within seconds of getting out of this vehicle," Parente said.

After the shooting, Parente said another agent walked up to the one wearing the camera and said, "Hey, what happened?" The agent pointed to his chest and said, "Hey don't speak. You're good," according to Parente's account.

Hennessy did not respond to those specific allegations, but argued the camera also picked up the agents saying, "We're getting boxed in! We gotta get out of here! She's going to make contact," right

before the car is struck on both sides.

Hennessy also noted that Martinez had a loaded pistol in her purse at the time, and even though she has a concealed-carry license and never brandished it, having a gun at that scene made the situation all that more volatile.

McShain agreed that the charges were serious, but said the defendants' lack of criminal history, community support and full-time employment tipped the scale to being released on bond.

"This is a horrible situation," the judge said. "It is a miracle to me that no one else was more seriously injured."

Martinez and Ruiz both appeared in court dressed in orange jail clothes and shackled at the ankles. The hearing was attended by numerous relatives and supporters of both Martinez and Ruiz. One called out "We love you, Maggie!" as Martinez was led from the courtroom. Another told Ruiz, "Keep your head up. Pray."

Martinez, 30, and Ruiz, 21, both of Chicago, were

charged in a criminal complaint filed Sunday with forcibly assaulting, impeding and interfering with a federal law enforcement officer, which carries up to 20 years in prison.

According to the complaint, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection agent was driving south of Pershing Road near the intersection of West 39th Place and South Kedzie Avenue on Saturday with two other CBP agents as passengers.

The officers were acting as a "security detail" and were "followed by a convoy of civilian vehicles," including a silver Nissan Rogue driven by Martinez and a black GMC Envoy driven by Ruiz, according to the complaint.

The convoy of civilian vehicles followed the agents closely and pursued the (border patrol agents) aggressively," the complaint stated, including "disobeying traffic laws, including running red lights and stop signs, driving in the wrong lane, and driving the wrong way down one-way streets."

Martinez drove off after the shooting but paramedics discovered her and her vehi-

cle at a repair shop about a mile away, according to the complaint. Ruiz also drove away after the collisions, but law enforcement located him and his vehicle at a gas station about a half block away, the complaint stated.

All three agents were equipped with body cameras, but the camera of only one of the passengers was switched on at the time of the incident, according to the complaint.

The body camera footage has not been released publicly. On Monday, the FBI posted a separate security video on its website that purportedly showed the crash and its aftermath, although most of it happens at the top or just off the frame.

In the footage, from a nearby tire shop, shows Ruiz's car speeding behind the agents' Chevrolet Tahoe, which slows down and is then struck. Ruiz's car then backs up, crashes into a parked car, and does a U-turn and speeds off before returning to the parking lot of the shop.

Martinez's silver sedan, meanwhile, appears to be following behind and swerves to the left of the officers' car. The shooting itself was not captured.

After the incident, both Gov. JB Pritzker and Illinois Sen. Tammy Duckworth, both Democrats, accused President Donald Trump and aggressive federal immigration enforcement of creating confrontation.

"They are using Gestapo tactics in Chicago, and this is what Trump wants to do, right?" Duckworth said. "He wants to intimidate the people of Chicago. That's not going to happen."

But Tricia McLaughlin, a spokesperson for Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, said the "attack" was part of a larger pattern of violence against immigration agents during the Trump administration's ongoing "Operation Midway Blitz."

"The violence and dehumanization of these men and women who are simply enforcing the law must stop," McLaughlin said in a statement.

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CPS students celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month amid time of tension

By Kate Perez
Chicago Tribune

Filomena Hernandez Rodriguez delicately lifted balloons out of a black cart, fingers running over the dried strips of papier-mache before placing them on the long wooden tables throughout Lane Tech College Prep High School's library.

A week prior, 90 students had packed the room during their open class period and selected a balloon to make into a pinata, excitedly chattering while dipping pieces of newspaper into a water and flour mixture before papering them. Rodriguez, a junior at Lane Tech, spread out the balloons, evidence of her desire to create community among her peers while honoring Hispanic Heritage Month.

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated across the U.S. from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, encompassing holidays from various cultures, including the Mexican Day of Independence and Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead.

Despite the fear in many communities as intimidation and arrests by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents ramp up across the Chicago area, students such as Rodriguez, 16, are finding solace and joy by honoring the holiday.

Sharing cultural traditions is not new for Lane Tech or Rodriguez, who hatched the plan to lead the pinata workshop. A year ago, when the fear of ICE sweeps and

arrests was palpable, but the action was not as intense, Rodriguez hosted a workshop for schoolmates to make picture frames to place on an ofrenda, an altar traditionally set up to honor family and loved ones during Día de los Muertos.

This year, her desire to celebrate and showcase her heritage was personal. Pinata making is fun and easy, but it's also a nod to her mother, who died last year. After enrolling her in a class years ago, Rodriguez's mother inspired her to pass along the skill to her schoolmates, she said.

"I was thinking about other students as well ... if they're perhaps going through my situation, I would want them to feel supported and safe in a way," Rodriguez said. Knowing that others who share her experiences, she added, would know that "it's OK to go through things," she said.

Rodriguez has honored that desire through her club, Together We Thrive, which helped organize the workshop she said. Pinatas can be enjoyed by everyone, no matter their background, and that could be seen through the number of students who initially showed up to make one, she added.

"There's a lot of people that are interested in these things," Rodriguez said. "And since people are really diverse here, for our pinata (workshop), it wasn't really just Hispanics, it was a lot of

different races (of people) coming and they were also really intrigued and into learning something new."

The workshop comes as students and parents are facing a mounting threat of ICE agents in their communities. Activity has been reported near schools across the city and suburbs, prompting buildings to adopt cautionary soft lockdowns. Chicago Public Schools has sent letters of assurances and guidance to families regarding the district's protocols for immigration and customs enforcement activity, aiming to assure families that the district will not cooperate with the agency, nor give out personal information without a warrant. Immigrant rights information has also been distributed at schools across the district.

Hispanic Heritage Month is a chance for the district to reflect on the ways "the culture, history and heritage of our Latinx students and staff enrich" CPS, interim CEO Macquiline King said at the Chicago Board of Education's Sept. 25 meeting.

"I know that this continues to be a time of great fear and anxiety for many of our students and families, but I want to emphasize again that CPS is fully prepared and that our schools remain the best and safest place for children in Chicago," King said.

Fear and anxiety were absent from Lane Tech's library on Sept. 24 as Spanish-language music echoed



Lane Tech high school students Sophie Estrada, left, and Alicia Munoz make pinatas during Hispanic Heritage Month on Sept. 24. **ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

throughout the room and students filed in, locating their balloons from the previous week before settling into a chair. Rodriguez fluttered from table to table, colorful rolls of crepe paper in her hands.

Quietly, she demonstrated to each table how to decorate their pinata with the paper, gently running glue along one side of a purple strip before pushing it against the hardened shell of the balloon. Rodriguez met mishaps — popping balloons or ripping of tissue paper — with a smile showing students how to repair their creations before moving on to the next.

For Rodriguez, spotlighting Hispanic culture at Lane Tech is crucial to helping students feel seen during a tense time, she said. Most of the Hispanic students she knows are from the South Side, she added. "There's fear. There's a lot of preparation just in case the worst happens, but for students

just to have each other is important."

The school works to create a welcoming environment for everyone with one way being the student-led cultural workshops, said Gabriela Escobar, Lane Tech director of culture and climate.

Escobar monitored the pinata workshop and has helped with others since she began at the high school over 10 years ago, keeping traditional dresses and heirlooms safe in her office until it's time for the workshops. The school has monthly cultural celebrations, she said, and what makes the events special is when people who identify with the culture contribute.

"It is so important, too, that people see that and see themselves walking into this building and feel ... like they're visible, they're not alone," Escobar said.

That's been tough to achieve in the last couple of years, she added. She

senses students are afraid. However, all students should feel safe in their schools, no matter the current events or their ethnic background.

"(Students) need to be seen, and they need to be heard, and they need to know that regardless of what's happening in the world, they have a space," Escobar said. "They have people supporting them. They have people that care about their communities and their voices."

Overall, Hispanic Heritage Month should remind everyone — including those who might dislike them — that Hispanic people are human beings with cultures that should be celebrated and communities that want to come together, even in times of fear, Rodriguez said.

"These views that these people have on us is not what is reality," Rodriguez said. "We are people. We're family. We like to bring people together, and we deserve to be here."

Response

from Page 1

again moved to the legal arena after Gov. JB Pritzker filed a lawsuit Monday seeking an emergency order blocking the deployment of the National Guard in Illinois. The city is also a plaintiff in the suit.

Some of the explosive events that captured national attention and were roundly condemned by Johnson on Monday include federal agents apparently: raiding a South Shore apartment and zip-tying residents, tear-gassing a Northwest Side street near an elementary school and detaining an alderman.

The mayor did not offer many new details on how his administration would fight a military deployment beyond the legal action and affirming that Chicago police would protect First Amendment rights. But Johnson did look at the TV cameras and assert, “I’m calling on this president to leave us the freak alone. We haven’t bothered anybody” — while also hinting that Trump may chicken out once again.

“Well look, this president has waffled in multiple occasions, which I believe is evident, that we have been so emphatic in our position and resolved in our presentation,” Johnson said. “As far as the people of Chicago: Continue to stand firm, continue to document the rage that this administration is promulgating against the people of this city.”

On Sunday evening, the Tribune reported the Trump administration plans to deploy 300 Illinois National Guard troops to the Chicago region for at least 60 days, according to a memo from Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth to Illinois National Guard leadership. Pritzker later revealed hundreds of Texas National Guard members were preparing to head to Illinois, which Republican Texas Gov. Greg Abbott confirmed was “fully authorized” by him.

Pritzker and Johnson said later Sunday that the move amounted to “Trump’s invasion” and “war on the people of Chicago,” respectively. Also that evening, a judge issued an emergency ruling to stop the president’s deployment of California National Guard troops to Portland, Oregon.

Pritzker’s lawsuit against the Trump administration claims the “physical deployment of the Texas National Guard troops to Illinois was planned for” Monday. A source familiar with the plans told the Tribune on



Members of the community and activists are pushed back by Chicago police while they assist federal officers near the 3900 block of South Kedzie Avenue on Saturday in Chicago. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Monday morning that some 200 National Guard troops from Texas were expected to arrive by Monday night.

It was not immediately clear what the timeline for an Illinois federal troop deployment would be. The Hegseth memo didn’t specify exactly where the deployments would take place, but said the chief of the National Guard Bureau, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the commander of U.S. Northern Command would coordinate details about the mobilization with the Illinois National Guard.

The possible new phase in Trump’s ongoing crackdown in Chicago followed a hairy weekend of anti-ICE demonstrations that were amplified by the White House and conservatives as purported pretext to justify a military occupation. How Johnson will toe the line between forcefully resisting the federal government creeping into his staunchly liberal city while not antagonizing Trump further is one of the major questions surrounding his mayorship these next several weeks.

Johnson’s Monday executive orders were aimed at blocking federal immigration agents from public and private buildings Monday as the arrival of Illinois and Texas National Guard troops sent by Trump loomed.

He said the measure establishes “ICE-free zones” at city property and “unwilling” private businesses. The order creates a “broad civic shield that limits the reach of harm-

ful enforcement practices,” he added.

The order prohibits federal immigration authorities from staging and carrying out operations on city-owned land, including parking lots, vacant lots and garages, according to the mayor’s office. Johnson also plans to support private property owners in banning ICE from working on their property without warrants by distributing signage stating that they are unwelcome.

“We cannot allow them to rampage throughout our city with no checks or balances. Nobody is above the law. If you break the law, you should be held accountable,” he said.

The mayor signed the order on a wooden desk bearing the emblem of the Grand Army of the Republic, a Union Army veterans association. A red-and-white metal sign stood next to him.

“This property is owned and/or controlled by the City of Chicago,” it said. “It may not be used for civil immigration enforcement.”

But it is not clear how federal agents, who have shown a willingness to smash city rules, will be treated if they nonetheless use land from which they are now banned. Pressed if police would be used to enforce the rule, Johnson did not share a clear response. Instead, he named his Department of Law as a mechanism. “If someone is in violation of the law, we’ll take them to court,” he said.

Trump’s administration immediately decried the

move, calling it “sick” in a post to X, the social media platform formerly known as Twitter. Later Monday, White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt took another jab at Chicago by reading aloud a headline on the city’s weekend gun violence toll.

“I don’t think any American would disagree that Chicago needs more law enforcement,” Leavitt said while waving a news article with Johnson’s face at the center of the printout. “Why should they be concerned about the federal government offering help to make their cities a safer place? They should be concerned about this.”

At the same time, the mayor’s control over the local Police Department has become a flashpoint in the Trump administration’s ongoing immigration raids.

On Saturday, an immigration agent shot a Chicago activist who allegedly rammed a car federal authorities were using during operations in Brighton Park. A video of a collision involving federal agents went viral, but Department of Homeland Security officials later said that was a separate incident of a driver speeding into a federal law enforcement vehicle nearby.

Marimar Martinez, 30, and Anthony Ian Santos Ruiz, 21, both of Chicago, are each charged in a criminal complaint filed Sunday with forcibly assaulting, impeding and interfering with a federal law enforcement officer in

the first incident. Chicago police responded to both scenes, according to a department spokesperson despite DHS claims that sought to attack Chicago police protocol.

“Pritzker’s Chicago Police Department is leaving the shooting scene and refuses to assist us in securing the area,” DHS spokesperson Tricia McLaughlin wrote on X, incorrectly stating that the governor had jurisdiction over the Police Department. “There is a growing crowd and we are deploying special operations to control the scene.”

Mayoral foe Ald. Raymond Lopez posted on X an apparent internal directive from CPD’s chief of patrol ordering “NO UNITS WILL RESPOND” to the Brighton Park intersection of the crash that resulted in a shooting. Lopez, a frequent guest on Fox News, condemned how “An armed women(sic) drives into @ICEgov agents and @Chicago_Police issues an order to stand down!”

The photo of the order posted by Lopez — which was timestamped to a couple hours after the initial shooting, citing a “large crowd” — was later amplified by an official account run by the White House.

Johnson did not answer multiple questions Monday on whether Chicago police were indeed ordered to not respond to the scene but called for a “full investigation” after officers were seen being tear-gassed near federal agent presence this

weekend.

“What I can confirm is that our Police Department responds to every single 911 call,” the mayor said.

Chicago police Superintendent Larry Snelling defended his Chief of Patrol Jon Hein, saying he would not bend to “political BS.”

“Our officers were not told to stand down,” said Snelling, who appeared alone at a Monday news conference at Chicago’s public safety headquarters.

However, sources confirmed to the Tribune the authenticity of the computer message attributed to Hein.

Snelling added, “there are some things we can work on” regarding communication in situations such as Saturday’s standoff between federal agents and protesters.

“When a crime is being committed, CPD is going to show up, and it doesn’t matter if there are ICE agents there,” Snelling said. “We have a duty to investigate and protect our city.”

Like other blue cities, Chicago is bound by a sanctuary city ordinance that prohibits local law enforcement from cooperating in federal immigration actions. That law has been a prime target of the White House during Trump’s second term, while Johnson has resolutely defended its utility in protecting the city’s immigrant community and ensuring trust between them and Chicago police.

As Johnson listed off a host of aggressive actions taken by federal agents in the last week, he focused on last week’s raid of a South Shore apartment building that saw federal forces rappel from helicopters.

“This was about a show of authoritarianism, a forceful display of tyranny,” he said. They sent a clear message to all Chicagoans. They said, “We do not respect your rights. We can do anything we want, and we will film it and put it on social media.”

Johnson said ICE must leave the city, calling for “more drastic” resistance to Trump’s efforts.

“If we allow this administration to take away due process for anyone, we will allow this administration to take away due process for everyone,” he said. “ICE lies, and people die. We cannot allow this to continue. We must take action more drastic than what we have done before, because what we are seeing is a more radical attempt to undermine our democracy.”

Chicago Tribune’s Caroline Kubzansky contributed.

Snelling

from Page 1

ities with their operations, as dictated by the Illinois TRUST Act and Chicago’s welcoming city ordinance, but are still obligated to respond to enforce the law and respond to potential illegal action.

“We have to be politically neutral if we want to enforce the law,” Snelling said. “In law enforcement, we don’t make the laws, we uphold them.”

Snelling said the department was conducting an after-action evaluation about Saturday’s events and said “there are some things we can work on” regarding communication in those situations, without elaborating.

He also condemned people posting about the department response “without any background, without any context, without any information,” and noted that 27 officers had been on scene and taken tear gas along with neighbors and protesters as federal agents sought to control the crowd, which was at some points hurling bricks and water bottles at agents and federal vehicles.

Snelling said he’d been in touch with federal authorities since Saturday about “how we are going to work this out.”

“Communication does not mean collaboration,” he said. “This had nothing to do with immigration enforcement.”

A pair of deputy chiefs were part of the response to

a call of a person shot in the 3900 block of South Kedzie Avenue about 10:30 a.m., Snelling said, and turned the scene and investigation over to federal authorities after it became clear that Border Patrol agents had shot a woman who allegedly tried to “box them in” with her car.

According to an internal police notification attributed to the chief of patrol obtained by the Tribune and later circulated widely on social media, “no units would respond” to a call from armed border patrol agents who said they were surrounded by a crowd in the 3900 block of South Kedzie Avenue. The notification went out at 12:28 p.m., almost two hours after the shooting.

It quickly got picked up on social media by right-wing commentators and Trump administration officials who incorrectly stated that Gov. JB Pritzker, a well-known political foe of the president, had jurisdiction over CPD.

Snelling did not mention the computer message attributed to Hein until reporters questioned him about it following his address. He denied that officers had been told to stand down and closed the news conference with a lengthy defense of Hein, a 30-year department veteran who became chief of patrol in March 2024.

“The chief of patrol would never tell anybody to stand down when anybody is in trouble or in need of help,” Snelling said. “I will say

there was a lot of miscommunication, back and forth about what was really happening out there on the ground, and we need to do better.”

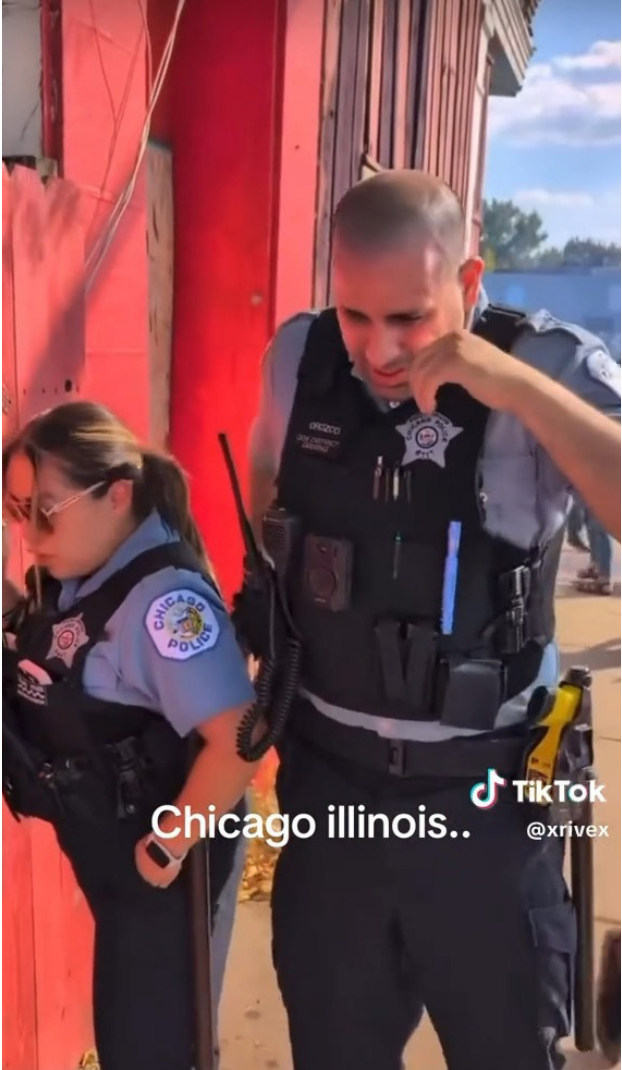
Sources confirmed the message’s authenticity to the Tribune.

Chicago police were on the scene Saturday afternoon, with patrol officers from multiple districts, at least two deputy chiefs and Deering (9th) District Cmdr. Joseph Marks all on-site throughout an hourslong standoff between federal agents, neighbors and activists.

Federal authorities arrested two U.S. citizens in the lead-up to the confrontation. Marimar Martinez, 30, and Anthony Ian Santos Ruiz, 21, both of Chicago, are each charged in a criminal complaint filed Sunday with forcibly assaulting, impeding and interfering with a federal law enforcement officer in the first incident.

One of the agents involved in the alleged hit-and-run on Kedzie Avenue is based in California and was driving a 2025 Ford Expedition registered in Illinois, police records obtained by the Tribune show.

In the wake of the traffic crash and shooting, agents liberally deployed canisters of tear gas and flash bangs up and down Kedzie and nearby residential streets as neighbors and protesters screamed profanities and threw bricks and water bottles at departing cars. Officers, who were mostly looking on and doing crowd



Chicago police officers are exposed to a chemical agent after arriving on the scene where a protester was shot by a federal immigration agent, and another detained, Saturday in the 3900 block of South Kedzie Avenue in Chicago’s Brighton Park neighborhood. **RYAN GARZA**

control, did not appear to be equipped with safety gear and had to get out of the way of the chemical crowd controls along with civilians.

Snelling said 27 officers suffered the effects of tear gas Saturday, but none were seriously harmed.

Former interim Chicago

police Superintendent Charlie Beck said he did not have enough information to comment on the specifics of the case but said the dilemma it raised is one that’s “always an issue with law enforcement.”

“Think about the times when the Klan marches and you have to protect a Klan march. Think about the times when you have the vast majority of officers that work for you have a different opinion than the people engaged in a protest and you protect their rights. Policing has to be, ideally, apolitical,” Beck said in an interview. “Your charge is to create safety in your city for everybody who lives, works or passes through. That includes protesters and federal agents. Your job is to provide safety.”

Northwest Side Ald. Nick Spasato, who represents a first responders-heavy ward, said the Police Department is in a “terrible spot” because of the tension between the city’s sanctuary status and ongoing immigration actions. But, he said, police need to respond to dangerous situations where there’s potential for violence against federal agents or anybody else.

“When a cop’s in trouble, they call for help. When a police officer hears an officer is in trouble, they want to help,” Spasato said. “Now the CPD is in a predicament because we made it perfectly clear (to ICE) you’re on your own on this. But if they’re being swarmed and jumped on, we should be helping.”



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EDITORIALS

Chicago can't shrug off the unease random attacks create

Rumors of a “Loop puncher” have swirled in Chicago for months — stories of women attacked seemingly at random. It turns out, there’s more than one man throwing punches, and not just downtown.

Many of us learned of the latest incident through a viral video online posted by Yara Afaneh last Tuesday after she was attacked on the platform at the Loyola CTA Red Line station.

Afaneh, 23, who says she takes the train to work and all over the city, was scrolling on her phone when a man approached her. She became uncomfortable and tried to move away, but the man advanced, landing a closed-fist punch to the back of her head. Police arrested Derek Rucker, 37, of Blue Island, and charged him with two misdemeanor counts of battery in connection with the attack.

He’s been released until his upcoming court date on Oct. 30.

Afaneh said that makes her uncomfortable. It should make all of us a little bit uncomfortable. According to Cook County court records, Rucker has been arrested more than two dozen times in the past two decades, with multiple judges ordering mental health evaluations.

Unfortunately, there are other victims out there — and other attackers.

On Aug. 19, 56-year-old Kathleen Miles was walking past Block 37 on West Washington Street in the Loop with a colleague, heading to a train, when a man approached and punched her so hard she fell to the pavement. Miles suffered severe facial fractures and was left unresponsive for a time.

Police took a man named William Livingston into custody, and ordered him to be held in Cook County Jail pending trial. It turns out Livingston has a long history with law enforcement, including multiple arrests for similar offenses — assault and battery, often against women and, in one instance, a 15-year-old girl.

In 2022, Livingston walked around the Loop and allegedly punched several women, including a DePaul University student named Cami Blechschmidt who was waiting for a ride-share vehicle.

As Blechschmidt described it, Livingston came up and hit her square in the face.

“We made eye contact, and like, he just had pure hate in his eyes. Just anger, pure anger,” she told WGN, adding that “letting him go home is not working.”

Here we are again less than three years later.

We’re left wondering, if these alleged perpetrators are known to the criminal justice system, what exactly has to happen before the system makes it stop?

Yes, arrests have been made, but the fear these men’s actions created lingers. Whether these assaults stemmed from rage, mental illness or both, they’re a reminder that random violence on our streets erodes the sense of safety everyone deserves here. Chicago can’t look away from incidents like this; it’s not acceptable for women to feel unsafe simply walking to the train in densely populated areas.

Too often, those accused of violent outbursts are cycled through courts without the kind of intervention — mental health or otherwise — that could prevent the next attack. That leaves women to bear the burden of vigilance.

No city can eliminate crime entirely. But a city that accepts women being struck at random as routine has lost something essential — its sense of care for its own.

ON THIS DAY 20 YEARS AGO NEW TALK OF URBAN TERROR

Perhaps a soft sense of complacency had washed over America, as warm as summer sunshine. Last month the fourth anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, came and went with little notice, as remote from everyday discourse as a Civil War re-enactment at Gettysburg. Talk from the White House about the continued threat of international terror served primarily as fresh grist for debate about Iraq. And the subway bombings in London, well, those took place an ocean away. Nothing happening here.

Thursday morning, though, brought a jolt... In a speech defending the Iraq campaign, President Bush said that, since 2001, the U.S. and its allies have blocked 10 serious Al Qaeda plots—three of them against American targets. “We’ve stopped at least five more Al Qaeda efforts to case targets in the United States or infiltrate operatives into our country,” he said. “Because of this steady progress, the enemy is wounded—but the enemy is still capable of global operations.”

By day’s end Bush’s words took on new and eerie resonance. New York officials, citing unusually detailed intelligence that had originated overseas, revealed that their city’s subway system... may be the target of a terrorist attack in the coming days. The Associated Press reported that, according to an unnamed law enforcement official, the threat is “specific to place, time and method”—and involves a bombing.

Suddenly, echoes of the London blasts reverberated not only through New York, but through Chicago and all the other U.S. cities that thrive on mass transit. CNN added another twist, reporting that the same intelligence... had provoked a successful U.S. raid against Al Qaeda operatives south of Baghdad.

That left Americans with more questions than answers... But warnings that New York police will pay strong attention to briefcases, luggage and baby carriages reminded all of us that killer weapons can be transported as easily as a pile of paperwork, a clutch of underwear, or a days-old child.

...Admonitions to report suspicious objects or behavior to police or transit personnel conveyed obligatory advice, but also reiterated what each of us should know: Our own alertness... is as likely to save lives as is our reliance on police and other public servants.

Mostly, though, Thursday’s new talk of urban terror should remind us that complacency is a dangerous trait. Much as we yearn for the comfort of Sept. 10, we cannot wish our enemies away.

Tribune editorial board, Oct. 7, 2005

We need our leaders to stay cool as ICE-related chaos gets hot

The provocateurs on both the right and the left over the weekend defined the narrative around the Trump administration’s immigration enforcement surge into Chicago and its suburbs.

On the right, we had Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers “patrolling” Latino neighborhoods in Chicago and tear-gassing scenes that arguably didn’t call for such heavy-handed tactics. We had the Department of Homeland Security making Hollywood-style videos of a wee-hours South Shore apartment building raid that looks more over-the-top with each passing day.

On the left, we had activists who were attempting — with cars or otherwise — to physically impede ICE and Customs Border Patrol agents from doing the work they’re legally allowed to do. With those tactics, these militant activists are imperiling the far greater number of peaceful protesters striving mightily to make their voices heard without breaking the law.

In the middle is everyone else.

The Chicagoans who are aghast at the chaos the ICE incursion is creating in our city. The public officials who are trying to remain cool in the face of such pressure, some more successfully than others. And even Chicago police officers who are catching intense heat from the right in following state and local laws that don’t allow them to cooperate with ICE in enforcing federal immigration laws in the absence of a warrant signed by a judge — even after more than two dozen of them were exposed to ICE-sprayed chemical agents while responding to a scene involving the federal agents.

The entire spectacle leaves all of us distraught.

In a statement over the weekend, the Civic Federation, the Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago, and the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce called for cooperation from the Trump administration with law enforcement in Chicago rather than more provocations. “National Guard troops on our streets ... have the potential to sow fear and chaos, threatening our businesses’ bottom lines



Federal agents detain a person near the 3900 block of South Kedzie Avenue, Saturday, in Chicago’s Brighton Park neighborhood. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

and our reputation,” they wrote.

We have said much the same before, and continue to believe that military deployment against the wishes of local office-holders would be counterproductive at best and dangerous at worst. Any military deployment, if necessary, ought to be done in close coordination with local law enforcement. Under the present circumstances, that appears highly unlikely.

The state on Monday filed suit to enjoin the Trump administration from dispatching hundreds of National Guard troops, 300 from Illinois and 200 from Texas, to the streets of Chicago. A similar lawsuit was successful over the weekend to keep National Guard troops from being deployed to Portland, Oregon.

Courtrooms are where these battles belong, not on the streets. We would caution Gov. JB Pritzker and, more particularly, Mayor Brandon Johnson not to encourage unlawful protests. Johnson on Monday sounded shrill and didn’t imbue us with confidence.

After signing an executive order barring federal agents from city property, an order that will be difficult at best to enforce, Johnson warned that the city might have to “take even more dramatic action” if ICE raids and the like continue. Asked to elaborate on what that might entail, he responded, “Everything. Everything, whatever is necessary to ensure that

we’re protecting people.”

Mr. Mayor, that’s not an appropriate response. Because “everything” isn’t legally at your disposal in response to what’s happening. Rhetoric along those lines can inspire the more militant among us to take actions that put themselves, innocent bystanders and first responders at risk.

To that end, we were heartened that the governor on Friday had Illinois State Police present at the federal detention center in Broadview, which has been the site of protests for several weeks. Pritzker took that step in response to the growing tension and some disturbing interactions between activists and ICE there, knowing he’d be criticized by voices on the left. Those critics predictably disparaged his effort to protect the rights of peaceful protesters as collaboration with federal immigration enforcement. Being governor sometimes entails taking actions that will make people in your own political tent upset. Pritzker deserves credit for doing so.

Still, we were concerned when Pritzker seemed to refer to Illinois as a “sovereign state” when understandably lamenting the potential arrival here of the Texas National Guard. Perhaps he was entirely using the adjective in terms of the Guard and its authorization, which is fine. But we remind everyone that Illinois obviously is not a sovereign state in the accepted sense of the word, meaning an independent political entity with total control over its own territory. Like it or

not, there is a duly elected federal government with power over immigration laws in this state and that must be spoken to and negotiated with. There is no other choice.

And it was important, too, for Chicago police Superintendent Larry Snelling to make clear on Monday that CPD officers will respond to situations in which federal immigration agents are threatened physically. “You may not like what they’re doing,” Snelling said of the activists’ view of ICE. “That does not mean you get to commit a crime. Especially one that could lead to deadly force. We need to keep everyone safe.”

Snelling was responding to reckless online assertions that CPD officers were ordered to “stand down” on Saturday when federal agents called for help after one of their cars was purposefully boxed in on the Southwest Side. He denied that accusation categorically but allowed at a news conference that “there are things that we can work on” and that there has been some confusion within his ranks about when officers can and can’t respond to situations involving ICE agents. He said there would be no such confusion going forward and that he wanted his officers to respond quickly without waiting for guidance from their superiors if necessary.

For however long this federal operation lasts, it will be an acute challenge for our leaders to keep their cool. But that’s the task before them.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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OPINION



Gov. JB Pritzker appears at the State of Illinois Building on Sept. 29. E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Gov. Pritzker appointees’ plan shifts a mega property tax burden onto you

By Brian Costin

Illinoisans already face the nation’s highest property taxes, yet legislators and political appointees close to Gov. JB Pritzker are pushing a veto-session “megaproject” bill that could trigger the largest property-tax redistribution in state history — shifting billions from politically connected megadevelopers onto ordinary families and small businesses.

Instead of lowering taxes for all, Pritzker and his allies are attempting to entrench a two-tier system: low taxes for the politically connected and sky-high taxes for everyone else. That’s crony capitalism, not fairness.

Telegraphing the administration’s position, Pritzker’s handpicked chairman of the Illinois Economic Development Corp., John Atkinson, recently penned an op-ed in the Tribune touting an Illinois House bill — sponsored by Rep. Jay Hoffman, assistant majority leader. The megaproject idea, originally introduced by Democratic state Sen. Ann Gillespie, has expanded. Similar megaproject bills have been filed by state Rep. Mary Beth Canty in the House and Sen. Mark Walker in the Senate. All of these megaproject bills would grant massive property tax cuts for developers in the name of property tax certainty.

The bills are so bad that, if enacted, they could potentially double property tax bills for families near megaproject sites in a state that ranked No. 1 in the nation in 2023 for the highest property taxes, according to the Illinois Policy Institute.

Atkinson highlighted a state program in Ohio that allowed the city of New Albany to give a “100% property tax abatement” break for 30 years to land a \$20 billion semiconductor campus. Left out of the Pritzker appointee’s pitch: The measure empowers local officials to cruelly dump the corporate tax discount onto working families and Main Street via a property tax shift. The megaproject bill’s crony giveaways are similar.

Here’s how it works. The bill locks in assessed values of designated megaprojects for 23 to 40 years, while the real property values continue to climb. A parcel bought

for \$200 million but later built into a \$5 billion complex would still be taxed on just the \$200 million figure. That’s approximately a 96% tax reduction.

A \$5 billion development in Arlington Heights would normally owe about \$238.5 million per year in property taxes. With its equalized assessed value frozen at \$200 million, it would pay only about \$9.5 million per year, resulting in a break of \$229 million per year. Over a 40-year designation (excluding the seven-year “investment” period), the developer’s break could easily exceed \$7.5 billion.

Local governments aren’t complaining about this bill because they are protected by the provision that values megaprojects at full fair cash value for the purpose of calculating tax caps and bond limits. This allows the \$7.5 billion property tax break to be shifted onto other property taxpayers in each jurisdiction.

Why would local governments agree to such a raw and unfair deal

for residents? Because the bill lets them strike special payment side deals with developers, cash they can tout as new revenue, while sidestepping the voter-approval referendums normally required for higher taxes. These special payments don’t have to match normal taxes, don’t have to fund essential services and can even flow back to the developer in disguised subsidies, such as paying for parking garages and infrastructure that would normally have to be paid for entirely by the developer.

This is just the latest chapter in Springfield’s corporate welfare playbook. Pritzker’s administration has already showered selective subsidies on green energy, film production, electric vehicles and data centers — always celebrated with ribbon cuttings and press releases. But a 2018 Mercatus Center study found that if Illinois eliminated economic development incentives, it could lower the corporate income tax from 9.5% to 6.36%, the state sales tax from 6.25% to 5.75%, and the personal income tax from 4.95% to 4.75% with no loss of revenue.

The Pritzker appointee claims, “Crucially, there are no state dollars in play,” but the bill itself contradicts this assertion. In its opening provisions, the bill authorizes megaprojects to be certified for exemptions from the state and local use tax and the retailers’ occupation tax on building materials used to construct the project, potentially reducing the normal sales tax

collections by hundreds of millions of dollars.

This is bigger than dollars and cents. The Declaration of Independence affirms that “all men are created equal,” a principle carried forward by the U.S. Constitution’s Equal Protection Clause and the Illinois Constitution’s requirement for uniform taxation. The megaprojects bill and the other legislation betray the principle of equal treatment by elevating millionaires and billionaires above their less well-off neighbors, institutionalizing inequality and punishing those without political connections.

Under the bill’s proposed \$100 million threshold, hundreds of past projects would have qualified, including Trump Tower in Chicago. Imagine being forced to subsidize the property taxes of a developer whose politics you despise — or competing as a small business against a multibillion-dollar corporation paying a fraction of your tax rate.

The better path is clear: one fair tax system for all, where relief comes from broad reforms that lower taxes for every homeowner, renter and small business, not sweetheart deals for billionaires. The megaprojects bill is the most dangerous corporate welfare scheme Illinois has seen in decades. Pritzker should reject this megadisaster before it further undermines our state’s already flawed tax system.

Brian Costin is deputy state director of Americans for Prosperity-Illinois.

Megaproject bill will help get Illinoisans back to work

By Christian Searles

When my team and I demolished the Arlington Park racetrack, formerly Arlington International Racecourse, we looked forward to what the site could become. We were making space for something new: a world-class stadium, a vibrant entertainment district and thousands of well-paying jobs. This was about more than demolition. It was about clearing the way for opportunity.

I’m the second-generation owner of Francis Construction Group, a proud minority-owned and union contractor based in Chicago. We’ve worked on everything from the University of Chicago to the National Public Housing Museum. Our mission goes beyond construction — we train and sponsor workers from the same neighborhoods where we build. That’s what real economic development looks like.

The Arlington Park racetrack is a perfect example. We were brought in as a subcontractor to Alpine Demolition, and we hired additional workers through Hire360, a local workforce development organization that trains and mentors people in underserved communities to launch union careers. The workers we hired were locally trained, and many had never worked on a project of that scale before. We didn’t just provide livable wages while we were on-site; we also provided an opportunity to get these workers’ foot in the door of an industry that can lead to a lasting career.

But now, those doors are starting to close. Contractors are slowing hiring — not because talent is lacking, but because the work is. It’s easy to see why. Inflation continues to drive up hard and soft construction costs. Materials, for example, are becoming more expensive. There’s a cliché that businesses crave certainty — but the real uncertainty isn’t the rising costs. It’s tax uncertainty.

The megaproject bill is a no-brainer. There’s a reason why our neighboring states are doing it. It doesn’t raise anyone’s taxes. It doesn’t hand out public money. It just provides large projects investing significant private capital the opportunity to negotiate property taxes with local municipalities to create certainty about how much the property tax bill will be over time. That’s it. It’s the certainty businesses want when deciding on a

major investment. That’s what turns a blueprint into a building.

Tax certainty unlocks development. And development means jobs — union jobs, local jobs, such as those created at Arlington Park with help from Hire360. Developers get the skilled labor they need, while communities benefit from economic activity. All of this happens at no additional cost to taxpayers.

There is, however, a cost to inaction. Illinois will not just lose work — it also risks losing major employers, union jobs and the small businesses that depend on large projects to survive. Developers will simply look elsewhere — Indiana, Ohio or any of the 37 states that have passed similar legislation.

Right now, we have a pipeline of qualified, motivated workers eager to get to work. Hire360 is doing its job. We’re doing ours. Now we need lawmakers to do theirs.

The Illinois General Assembly can pass the megaproject bill and clear the way for us to get back to work — just like we did when we cleared the Arlington Park racetrack. We need more projects like Arlington Park. More big projects. More opportunities to turn raw talent into seasoned professionals.

We’ve already demolished the racetrack. Now we’re waiting for Springfield to give us the green light to rebuild it.

It’s time for all of us to get back to work and pass the megaproject bill.

Christian Searles is president of Francis Construction Group.



The shell of the grandstand at the former Arlington International Racecourse during demolition on Aug. 31, 2023, in Arlington Heights. STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

OPINION

Two years later, the war in Gaza has been catastrophic for all sides



Daniel DePetrís

Oct. 7, 2023, will forever be remembered in Israel as the deadliest day for the Jewish people since the Holocaust. The devastating Hamas attack against Israeli communities along the Gaza border, which claimed the lives of approximately 1,200 people and led to another 251 being taken to Gaza as hostages, was not only sparked what would turn out to be the longest, most violent war between Israel and Hamas in history but also was a huge blow to the regional status quo. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whose entire political career was based on maintaining Israel's security, was exposed as the head of a government caught unprepared by the biggest attack on the Israeli state since the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

The ensuing war in Gaza, which entered its third year Tuesday, has been nothing short of catastrophic for all sides. The families of the hostages who remain in Hamas custody have experienced constant anguish as they continue to wait for the return of their loved ones. Israel, the strongest state in the Middle East, has often been at odds with itself, with Netanyahu the object of scorn among many Israelis who consider him to be a self-centered politician catering to his ultra-nationalist ministers rather than the Israeli public. Netanyahu's right-wing base has used the Oct. 7 tragedy as an opportunity to press

for its long-standing dream of annexing Gaza and rebuilding the settlements that a previous Israeli government demolished two decades ago.

In Gaza, the physical destruction mimics Berlin and Tokyo in 1945. More than 67,000 Palestinians have been killed, many in attacks that experts in international law have labeled as indiscriminate. The vast majority of the roughly 2 million Palestinians who call Gaza home have been displaced multiple times. The so-called humanitarian zones Israel has carved out for civilians aren't humanitarian at all, but rather a constellation of tents cramped into a small space with inadequate food, water and sanitation. The hospital system is, if not annihilated, then dilapidated. According to the United Nations, 90% of Gaza's housing stock has been destroyed, which means that if the war stops, most Palestinians won't have homes to return to.

The prospects for a comprehensive resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which existed before Oct. 7, are poor. Successive U.S. administrations dating to the George H.W. Bush presidency have tried to get the two sides to negotiate an honorable, final settlement, with the two-state solution — an independent Palestine living in peace and security with the state of Israel — serving as the North Star of those diplomatic efforts. Some presidents such as Bill Clinton, who helped mediate the 1993 Oslo Accords, which established the Palestinian Authority and mandated phased Israeli withdrawals from the West Bank and Gaza, have come closer than others.



Pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian activists wave flags during dueling protests near Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's hotel at the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly on Sept. 25 in New York. ALEXI J. ROSENFELD/GETTY

Yet if Oct. 7 wasn't the death knell to the two-state paradigm that has anchored U.S. policy for so long, then it has dealt the entire concept a huge cut to the abdomen. Netanyahu and his supporters, who never bought into the concept of a Palestinian state, exploited the Hamas assault as an opening to throw even more roadblocks in the way. The current Israeli government is more interested in expanding settlements in strategic areas of the West Bank and seizing more Palestinian land than it is keeping the two-state option alive.

"I will not allow a Palestinian state" is now Netanyahu's favorite mantra, in part to keep his coalition behind him. Netanyahu may be a divisive and wily political figure, but on this issue at least, the Israeli public is firmly behind him; the Israel Democracy Institute finds that 72% of Jewish Israelis don't believe the Palestinians have a right to a state of their own. In other words,

if Netanyahu were to leave the scene, there's no evidence that the odds of successful Israeli-Palestinian diplomacy would improve all that much.

There are also wider trends to mention. Before Oct. 7, Israel was comfortable biding its time and striking only when it felt it needed to. Iran's nuclear program was viewed as off-limits, not because Israel couldn't perform the job but because the United States was highly resistant to yet one more conflict developing in the Middle East that could have repercussions throughout the region. Hamas in Gaza was a problem to be managed with the occasional bombing campaign. Hezbollah in Lebanon was considered too powerful to mess, with given the tens of thousands of rockets that could rain down on Israeli towns and cities. And the Houthis in Yemen were essentially treated as ragtag militiamen in sandals who couldn't do much of anything to affect Israel's security.

This is obviously no longer the case. Just as 9/11 pierced Americans' perception of invincibility, Oct. 7 pierced Israelis' self-confidence. Israel's threat perception has mushroomed to levels unseen since the days of Golda Meir. Whether this threat perception is accurate is almost a secondary question; the important part is Netanyahu believes it to be true.

The actions speak for themselves. Israel has bombed six countries in the Middle East over the last two years, a record that makes Bush look like a pacifist in comparison. In Syria, Israeli troops have moved past the U.N.-demarcated buffer zone into Syrian territory and ordered the new Syrian government to demilitarize the area south of Damascus. In Lebanon, Israeli forces remain perched along parts of Lebanon's southern border, a legacy of the monthslong war against Hezbollah that severely degraded the Lebanese militia's arsenal. Last month, Israel targeted Hamas officials in the quiet Qatari capital of Doha, an operation so abrasive that it even irked President Donald Trump. And in Iran, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei is still digging out from the 12-day Israeli bombing operation in June that hit everything from Iran's top military officers to its coveted nuclear facilities.

Whether or not Trump's peace plan ends the war in Gaza, Oct. 7 has changed the Middle East. And its legacy will linger.

Daniel DePetrís is a fellow at Defense Priorities and a foreign affairs columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

State cops in Broadview

This past Friday, I attended a protest at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement processing center in Broadview to exercise my First Amendment rights and practice my faith. As a pastor, I believe that what is happening at that facility and others like it across the country is a moral and spiritual emergency.

When I show up to a protest, I am 100% committed to nonviolence. I wear a clerical collar, and my behavior is completely nonthreatening. In tense situations, I have found a pastoral presence can help bring down the temperature in helpful ways.

I attended Friday's protest in part due to concern that someone could eventually be killed by ICE due to the agency's escalation of violence against protesters. I assumed that was the same concern that caused the Illinois State Police to be deployed to the ICE facility. When I heard state police would be present, I thought that their actions would match Gov. JB Pritzker's tough anti-ICE rhetoric. I hoped they might even protect protesters' First Amendment rights. I was gravely mistaken.

At that protest, Illinois State Police hit me with their hands and pushed me and others with truncheons. This violent escalation took place when I was praying at the front line of the protest, on the curb and not in the street, which we were told was off-limits.

While protesters were arbitrarily and forcibly moved by state police, a right-wing influencer was allowed access to shoot footage from the roadway we were not allowed on. When U.S. Border Patrol commander Gregory Bovino arrived, we were pushed back by the Illinois State Police and federal agents, even though we were not on federal property.

In response to Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem's visit to the ICE facility in Broadview, Pritzker said, "Illinois is not a photo opportunity." I wish that were the case.

From what I saw on Friday, not only was our state made into a photo-op, but also, our state police rolled out the red carpet for Bovino and Noem. Instead of talking a big game, the governor should make sure that the state police are there to protect Illinoisans exercising their First Amendment rights.

— The Rev. Dr. Michael Woolf, Evanston

End federal occupation

Regarding the federal government invasion of the Chicago area, I have read that current efforts of local government are to inform people of their rights. I appreciate that, and it's important to educate. However, we need to shift the local government's focus to ending federal occupation of our city.

It seems the federal government is "here to stay" and "expanding," as Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said about the Broadview processing facility. If they are here for much longer, it will have a decadeslong effect on Chicago. Businesses will leave, and new businesses will not move here. People will decline, and new people will not move here. The population decline will have the same negative effects experienced from the 1960s to the 1980s that Chicago is still feeling.

Our active community organizations can continue to inform people of their rights. Turn the city government's attention to ending the federal government's occupation. Use the power of local government to prevent terrorism tactics by the federal government. Use the lawyers to sue. Use the police to enforce laws that are being broken by the federal government. Use communications teams to tell



U.S. Border Patrol chief Gregory Bovino, right, warns protesters near the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement holding facility in Broadview on Friday. ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

the truth about what's happening: That the Gestapo-style tactics are terrorizing us and not making us feel safe.

Block streets with snowplow trucks to keep out the National Guard. Use your leadership training and skills to unite behind a worthy cause. Between the aldermen, Cook County representatives, state and federal lawmakers, and party committeepersons, Chicago has a lot of politicians. They could combine their voices and resources.

This should be their primary focus. Whatever they have to do and say should be done and said to get federal forces out. We have only seen an escalation of the conflict, and it will not get better by only educating the citizens of their rights. A successful campaign to end the occupation will help Chicago and other cities around the country.

Our politicians should rise to the occasion and be a model for the country.

— Greg Osborne, Chicago

Agents are citizens, too

I heard a report on TV about the police and federal agents in Broadview being attacked. Someone needs to tell Broadview Mayor Katrina Thompson and Gov. JB Pritzker that these people are just as much citizens, if not more so, than the people waving signs and yelling.

If the National Guard needs to be brought in, so be it. Of course, they would never do that, because the president suggested that. And they can never do anything that he wants.

— Loren Monsess, Waterman, Illinois

Action, not posturing

I am a 41-year-old resident of Chicago, and I am frustrated with the way our leaders respond to Immigration and Customs Enforcement operations in this city.

The recent raid on a South Shore apartment complex, where 37 people were arrested and residents' property was ransacked without provocation or warrant, is only the latest example.

Time and again, Mayor Brandon Johnson leans on the same rhetorical formulas: "let me be clear;" "in this moment;" "make no mistake;" "this administration has proved;" etc. These phrases sound declarative, but they are platitudes.

They might suffice for a private citizen without authority, but not for the mayor of the nation's third-largest city.

His office was not built for posturing. It was built for action.

I also recognize there are limits to what any local or state officeholder can do in the face of federal power. But Johnson is not alone in relying on words instead of deeds. Gov. JB Pritzker once said, "You come for my people, you come through me." Yet when raids sweep through Illinois neighborhoods, we see polished statements, not protective measures.

This reflects a deeper problem: Elected officials often assume that careful words, transparency and accessibility will inspire trust more than outcomes do.

But Chicagoans do not just need inspiration from a podium; we need and deserve protection under the law.

Words without action are theater. Leadership requires more.

— Mike Ponticelli, Chicago

It is time to speak up

Allow me to offer a prediction of what will happen after Friday's protest at the Broadview processing facility. President Donald Trump will refer to Chicago as a lawless city. Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem will cry crocodile tears for the supposed threats to Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers. Border Patrol chief Gregory Bovino will promise retribution against anyone who opposes the administration's illegal action against immigrants and refugees. They will paint a picture of violence and chaos.

I am a 68-year-old family doctor and a lifelong Chicagoan, and I was there, so let me tell you what really happened. A group of over 100 Jewish Americans gathered peacefully for morning prayers starting at 7 a.m. We then joined hundreds of other peaceful protesters who spoke loudly and passionately about the inhumane treatment of our neighbors. We spoke to officers without hatred, reminding them that we are a nation of immigrants, and encouraging them to uphold the Constitution. We cried "shame" at the masked ICE officers, who are patrolling our streets and parks with weapons of war aimed at citizens and noncitizens alike. We had no weapons, and we engaged in no violence, but that is what we were met with by ICE.

Don't believe the lies spewed by the president and his cronies. Even more important, don't believe that this will not affect you. Trump has told us that he wants to use the taxpayer-funded U.S. military against citizens in cities who engage in their constitutionally guaranteed right to vote against him.

History teaches that the time to speak up is now, before they come for you and me.

— Steven Rothschild, Chicago

We're better than this

I think it is time to accept some facts in order to live a normal life.

Donald Trump is president until 2028. He is fulfilling campaign promises. Fulfilling campaign promises is rare. Compromise is a necessity. Constant opposition leads nowhere.

Let's accept what we have, work with it and move forward. We are all so much better than this.

— Sue Atkinson, Frankfort

For online-exclusive letters, go to www.chicagotribune.com/letters. Email your letter submissions, 400 words or less, to letters@chicagotribune.com. Include your full name, address and phone number.



A fire erupts Monday amid Gaza buildings destroyed in Israeli military operations, as seen from southern Israel. **LEO CORREA/AP**

Gaza

from Page 1

Egypt’s state-owned Al-Qahera News television station reported that the talks began with a meeting between Arab mediators and the Hamas delegation. Mediators will then meet with the Israeli delegation.

Egyptian and Qatari mediators will discuss the outcome of their meetings with both parties before U.S. envoy Steve Witkoff joins the talks, it said.

Trump’s son-in-law Jared Kushner is also expected to join the talks, Egypt’s state-run al-Ahram reported.

Hamas said negotiations will focus on the first stage of a ceasefire, including the partial withdrawal of Israeli forces as well as the release of hostages held by the militants in Gaza in exchange for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli detention.

This latest push for peace comes after Hamas accepted some elements of the U.S. plan that Israel also said it supported.

Under the plan, Hamas would release the remaining 48 hostages — about 20 are believed to be alive — within three days. It also would give up power and disarm.

The talks in Egypt are expected to move quickly. Netanyahu said they would be “confined to a few days maximum,” although some Hamas officials have warned that more time may be needed to locate bodies of hostages under rubble.

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi hailed Trump’s efforts, underscoring the importance of

preserving the U.S.-crafted “peace system” in the Middle East since the 1970s, which he said “served as a strategic framework for regional stability.”

El-Sisi spoke in a televised address commemorating the anniversary of the start of the 1973 war with Israel that led to Egypt reclaiming the Sinai Peninsula, where Sharm el-Sheikh is located.

The United States has said Israel’s heavy bombardment of Gaza would need to stop for the hostages to be released.

Israel says it’s largely heeding Trump’s call.

The Israeli military said it is mostly carrying out defensive strikes to protect troops, although dozens of Palestinians have been killed since the military’s statement Saturday night.

Gaza’s Health Ministry said Monday that the bodies of 19 people, including two aid-seekers killed by Israeli strikes and gunfire, had been brought to hospitals by Monday morning. An additional 96 people were wounded.

The deaths brought the Palestinian toll to 67,160 since the Hamas attack on Oct. 7, 2023, triggered the war, with nearly 170,000 wounded, the ministry said.

Hamas-led militants abducted 251 people and killed around 1,200, mostly civilians, in the Oct. 7 attack. Most of the largely Israeli hostages have been released in ceasefires or other deals.

Meanwhile, families of Israeli hostages petitioned the Nobel Prize Committee to award the Nobel Peace Prize to Trump for what they called his unprece-

dent contributions to global peace.

“At this very moment, President Trump’s comprehensive plan to release all remaining hostages and finally end this terrible war is on the table,” the families wrote. “For the first time in months, we are hopeful that our nightmare will finally be over.”

In a commemoration ceremony for Israelis killed at the Nir Oz Kibbutz, Daniel Lifshitz said the primary focus of talks should be the swift release of all remaining hostages.

“Israel will pay painful concessions by releasing mass murderers and terrorists that killed many among our friends and families here in Israel, but we cherish life and in Trump we trust to make it happen,” said Lifshitz, grandson of slain hostage Oded and released hostage Yocheved Lifshitz.

In Gaza, families of Palestinians born on the day the war began hoped to celebrate their second birthday with the sound of laughter and cheers instead of the cacophony of bombs and gunfire.

The children’s mothers have been repeatedly displaced and live in constant fear for their safety. They also lack access to health care.

Amal al-Taweel and her husband, Mostafa, had their son, Ali, after three years of trying for a child. They now live in a tent without proper sanitation, food, vaccinations or toys.

“I was envisioning a different life for him,” she said. “He couldn’t experience what a safe family life feels like.”

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON OCT. 7 ...

In 1765, the Stamp Act Congress convened in New York to draw up colonial grievances against England.

In 1777 the second Battle of Saratoga began during the American Revolution. (British forces under Gen. John Burgoyne surrendered 10 days later.)

In 1849 author Edgar Allan Poe died in Baltimore; he was 40.

In 1868 Cornell University was inaugurated in Ithaca, N.Y.

In 1940 Artie Shaw and his Orchestra recorded Hoagy Carmichael’s “Stardust” for RCA Victor.

In 1949 the Republic of East Germany was formed.

In 1950 the U.N. General Assembly approved an advance by U.N. forces north of the 38th Parallel in the Korean Conflict.

In 1954 Marian Anderson became the first black singer hired by the Metropolitan Opera Company in New York.

In 1963 President John Kennedy signed the documents of ratification for a nuclear test ban treaty with Britain and the Soviet Union.

In 1968 the Motion Picture Association of America adopted its film-rating system, ranging from G for general audiences to M (later PG) for mature audiences to R for restricted audiences to X (later NC-17) for adult patrons only.

In 1977 the Queen double-A single “We Are the Champions” (by lead singer Freddie Mercury) and “We Will Rock You” (by lead guitarist

Brian May) was released in the United Kingdom by EMI Records.

In 1979 Pope John Paul II concluded his weeklong tour of the United States with a Mass on the Washington Mall.

In 1982 the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical “Cats” opened on Broadway. (The show closed Sept. 10, 2000, after a record 7,485 performances.)

In 1984 the San Diego Padres won the National League pennant by defeating the Cubs 6-3 in game five of the league playoffs. (The loss denied the Cubs their first chance at World Series play since 1945.)

In 1985 Palestinian gunmen hijacked the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro in the Mediterranean with more than 400 people aboard. (The hijackers killed an elderly Jewish American tourist, Leon Klinghoffer, and threw his body overboard; they surrendered two days after taking the ship.)

In 1991 University of Oklahoma law professor Anita Hill publicly accused Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of making sexually inappropriate comments in her presence when she worked for him, and urged the U.S. Senate to investigate her claims. (Thomas denied Hill’s allegations.)

In 1992 trade representatives of the United States, Canada and Mexico initiated the North American Free Trade Agreement during a ceremony in San Antonio.

In 1993 President Bill Clinton ordered more troops, heavy armor and naval firepower to Somalia, but also announced he would pull

out all Americans by the end of March 1994.

In 1995 New York’s Central Park was transformed into a giant open-air cathedral as Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass before 130,000 people. Also in 1995 a magnitude 7 earthquake struck Indonesia, killing more than 80 people.

In 1998 Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was beaten and left tied to a wooden fencepost outside of Laramie, Wyo.; he died five days later. (Russell Henderson and Aaron McKinney are serving life sentences for Shepard’s murder.)

In 2001 the United States and Britain launched military strikes in Afghanistan. Also in 2001 Barry Bonds of the San Francisco Giants wrapped up his record-breaking season with his 73rd homer.

In 2002 the Washington-area sniper struck again, shooting and critically wounding a 13-year-old boy as his aunt dropped him off at school in Bowie, Md.

In 2003 California voters recalled Gov. Gray Davis and elected Arnold Schwarzenegger their new governor.

In 2004 President George W. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney conceded that Saddam Hussein had no weapons of mass destruction, even as they tried to shift the Iraq war debate to a new issue — whether the invasion was justified because Hussein was abusing a U.N. oil-for-food program.

In 2007 Kenya’s Patrick Ivuti won the Chicago Marathon by a fraction of a second; another 250 runners were taken to hospitals because of heat-related ailments.



Chicago Tribune

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Ast, Bruno

Bruno Ast, age 88, passed away in the early hours of Sunday September 28, 2025, at Illinois Masonic Medical Center. A gifted architect, passionate educator, and longtime resident of the Old Town neighborhood in Chicago, he was known for his architectural scholarship and his devotion to family, friends, and community.

After earning his B.A. and M.A in architecture at the University of Illinois, he moved to Chicago, worked at Harry Weese and Associates, and Skidmore Owings and Merrill. In 1970, with his wife Gündüz, he founded Ast + Dagdelen Architects. He was the architect for the Kent State University May 4, 1970 Memorial in Kent, Ohio.

Bruno taught at the University of Illinois at Chicago's School of Architecture from 1969 to 2012 where in addition to teaching he held many other roles in the department. He loved working with and mentoring his students.

Bruno found joy in his family, his home and garden, and following the Bears and the Cubs. He was active in his community, served on the board and as president of the Old Town Triangle Association.

Bruno is survived by his beloved wife and partner of 64 years, Gündüz Dagdelen Ast; his daughter, Fatima Ast (Jay Heltzer); and two grandchildren, Max and Zeki. He also leaves behind his older brother, John Ast (Maria) and many cherished nieces, nephews, grand-nieces, and grand-nephews. He was predeceased by his parents Philip and Anna Ast, and his younger brother Joseph Ast (Carol).

A memorial service will be planned for Spring 2026.

Dudek, Michael Henry

Beloved husband of Natalie (nee Buechsenschuetz); loving father of Lindsey and Lauren; devoted son of the late Henry “Hank” and the late Josephine “Jay” (nee Dallio) Dudek. Visitation will be held at Thornridge Funeral Home 14318 S. La Grange Rd. (Orland Park) on Friday, October 10th from 4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. Saturday, October 11th Chapel Prayers at 10:00 A.M. followed by procession to St. Francis of Assisi Parish 15050 S. Wolf Rd. (Orland Park) for Mass of Christian Burial 10:30 A.M. Interment St. Mary Cemetery.

Jones, David Paul

David Paul Jones, 93, of Evanston, IL and longtime resident of Skokie, IL, passed away on Tuesday, September 30, 2025. Mr. Jones was born on September 6, 1932, in Syracuse, NY; a son of the late George and Celia (Crocker) Jones. He graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he was a brother in the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. After college, Mr. Jones served in the US Army overseas in Korea. After active duty, Mr. Jones returned to Chicago to earn a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning from Loyola University, Chicago.

Mr. Jones and Martha Lois Jones née House married in 1957 and were the first African Americans to move to Skokie, IL in 1961. Despite initial resistance from many to their move, the Joneses persisted and over time became recognized as pillars of the community. Mr. Jones served on the Village of Skokie’s Human Relations Commission, played a role in the passing of Illinois’ first Fair Housing Act, and served for decades on the board of Skokie’s Fire and Police Commissioners. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jones were also active members of the Skokie Caucus and St. Joan of Arc Parish. Additionally, like his mother, Mr. Jones was a member of the Third Order of Franciscans.

Mr. Jones is survived by 3 daughters: Paula (Eric) Manchester, Gail (Jerry) Jones Klopfer, and Becky (Steve) Betts. In addition, Mr. Jones aka Papa is survived by his grandchildren David Woods; Austin and Audrey Klopfer; Dakota and Nathaniel Betts. He is also survived by his great granddaughter Catalina Woods. Additionally, he is survived by 3 of his 9 siblings: Robert Jones, Mary Jones, and Barbara (Al) Geiszler.

Visitation for Mr. Jones will be on Saturday, October 11, 9:00 a.m. CST prior to the Funeral Mass at 10:00 a.m. at St. John Henry Newman Parish- St Joan of Arc Church, 3698 Lyons St., Evanston, IL 60203. Interment All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines, IL.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to: Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) (<https://www.splcenter.org>), The Geneva Foundation of Presbyterian Living (<https://www.presbyterianliving.org/foundation/>), or Franciscan Outreach (<https://franoutreach.org>) info: donnellanfuneral.com or (847)675-1990

Donnellan
FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICES

Lannon, James M.

James Lannon, age 76, of Elmhurst, former long time resident of Orland Park; proud US Army Veteran with service during the Vietnam War; beloved husband of Denise, nee DeCarlo Haggerty; loving father of Julie (John) Mussatto, Tricia (Nakin) Nolasco,

Kelly (Julio) Chinea, Michael Lannon, Matthew (Patsy) Lannon, Lindsay (Chris) Cooley, Kevin (Basia) Haggerty and Katie (Kevin) Murphy; proud grandfather of Allen, Carson, Aiden, Kyle, Nevin, Sophie, Jaxson, Michaela, Mia, Charlie, Madison, Lia, Paisley, Noah, Maeve, Dean, Beau, Jolene, and Janet Joy; dear brother of Joanne (the late Paul) Schultze, Peggy (Barb) Reape, Janet (Tom) Nolan and the late Dennis Lannon; devoted son of the late Eugene and the late Florence Lannon; fond uncle of a niece and many nephews. Visitation Thursday, October 9, 2025, 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Friday, October 10, 2025, 8:00 a.m. until time of prayers 9:00 a.m. at **Gibbons Funeral Home**, 134 South York Road, (1/2 mile North of Saint Charles Road), Elmhurst. Mass of Christian Burial 9:30 a.m. at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church. Interment Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery, Hillside. Live stream of funeral mass available through funeral home website. For funeral information please call 630-832-0018 or www.gibbonsfuneralhome.com

Schell, Michael John

Michael John Schell, born August 26, 1965. Died October 4, 2025, at age 60. The Funeral will be held Thursday, October 9, 2025, 11:00am at Saint Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 524 Ninth Street, Wilmette, Illinois. Survived by Father Robert (Bob) J. Schell, his brother Robert (Rob) E. Schell and his sister Margaret (Maggie) Schell. Born in Evergreen Park, Illinois, and died in Northbrook, Illinois. Michael was a great friend to many, a thoughtful son and brother. He loved playing the guitar and enjoying listening to all kinds of music, but especially old rock and roll. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Breakthrough T1D (formerly JDRF) to help type 1 diabetes research. Info: donnellanfuneral.com or (847)675-1990.

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Chicago Tribune

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1931-2017



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famous chocolate chip cookies. Her grandchildren say her chocolate chip cookies are the best.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Koram Senior Housing (Elderly Section 8 Housing) Waiting List Application
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Application Distribution Period: Sep 29 (Monday) to Oct 26, 2025 (Sunday) From 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Application Acceptance (Submission) Period: Oct 27 (Monday) to Oct 29, 2025 (Wednesday) From 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Application Pick-up and Registration place: Koram Senior Housing
Applicants must pick up his/her application form at Koram Senior Housing and submit the application in person.
773-583-6616

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LEGAL NOTICES
GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

NOTICE

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For
294 Inc.
9660 Golf Rd.
Des Plaines, IL 60016
Any objections to the granting of said license shall be made to the President of the Board of Commissioners and Deputy Liquor Commissioner, in writing, signed by the objector, within ten days of the date of this notice, stating specifically the grounds of the objection. Any objections should be mailed to: 118 N. Clark Street, Room 1160, Chicago, Illinois 60602
Tina Consola
Deputy Liquor Commissioner
October 7, 2025 7880358

LEGAL BID NOTICE

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PROVISIO TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOLS DISTRICT 209 WILL ACCEPT SEALED BIDS FOR PROVISIO EAST CIRCLE DRIVE CONCRETE REPAIR PROJECT. SERVICES ARE TO BE PROVIDED BY December 1, 2025 (WEATHER PERMITTING). SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE AT 8601 W. ROOSEVELT ROAD OR WWW.PTHS209.ORG. SEALED BIDS ARE DUE AT 11:00 A.M. ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2025
September 29 - October 8, 2025 - 7877041

TAKE
NOTICES

TO: Neuses Brothers Real Estate Partnership, P.K. Neuses, Inc. P.K. Neuses, Inc. c/o Gary Neuses, P.K. Neuses, Inc. c/o Illinois Secretary of State, P.K. Neuses, Incorporated RA: William J. Moore, P.K. Neuses, Incorporated c/o Don P. Neuses, Gary Neuses, Guy Neuses, Neuses Brothers Real Estate Partnership c/o Gary Neuses, Regions Bank, Fifth Third Bank, N.A., Old Second National Bank; Global Signal Acquisitions IV LLC RA: CT Corporation System, LMRK Propco LLC c/o Illinois Secretary of State, LMRK Propco LLC, RA: National Registered Agents, Inc., Global Signal Acquisitions IV LLC c/o General Counsel, Global Signal Acqs IV LLC c/o Nextel West Corp., Nextel West Corp. RA: Illinois Corporation Service Co, Denali Spectrum Operations, LLC, Denali Spectrum Operations, LLC RA: Illinois Corporation Service Co, Denali Spectrum Operations, LLC c/o Illinois Secretary of State, New Circular Wireless Services, Inc. RA: CT Corporation Service, AT&T Mobility, LLC RA: CT Corporation Service, Global Signal Acquisitions IV LLC, National Advertising Company, LD Acquisition Company 12, LLC, LD Acquisitions Company 12, LLC c/o Landmark Dividend LLC, LD Acquisition Company 12, LLC c/o Illinois Secretary of State, LD Acquisition Company 12, LLC RA: National Registered Agents, Inc., Landmark Dividend, LLC, RA: National Registered Agents Inc., LMRK Propco 3, LLC, LMRK Propco 3 LLC RA: National Registered Agents, Inc., Wilmington Trust, N.A. As Indenture Trustee, National Advertising Company RA: Illinois Corporation Service Co, National Advertising Company c/o Illinois Secretary of State, Crown Castle, Crown Castle USA Inc. c/o General Counsel, Neuses Tools, Outfront Media Group, LLC, Outfront Media Group, LLC RA: Illinois Corporation Service Co, Occupant, 1401 & 1409 Rohlfing Rd., Rolling Meadows, IL; Cook County Clerk Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2025COTD003297. FILED: September 17, 2025. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 1/10/2024. Certificate No. 21- 0001618. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2021. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 1401 Rohlfing Rd, Rolling Meadows, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 02-26-200-052-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 1/21/2026. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 1/21/2026. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 2/20/2026 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 1/21/2026 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Fundpality 2023, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: September 22, 2025.
10/6, 10/7, 10/8/20257874609

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REVISED BID OPENING DATE: October 21, 2025, Per Addendum #1
TIME: 11:00 a.m., Central Time

CONTACT: Toby Merrick,
Senior Procurement Specialist/ Procurement Specialist Email:
toby.merrick@cityofchicago.org

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Bids requiring a bid deposit must be accompanied by a Bid Bond, provided by a surety company authorized to do business in the United States, and made payable to the City of Chicago. A scanned copy of the bid bond must be attached to the online bid submission, with the original bond to be received by DPS within 3 business days of the bid opening. This is required of all bidders, not just the apparent low bidder. Any late Bids received after announced date and time, for the opening of Bids, will not be accepted.
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BLUE SKY

New Year's resolutions from Chicago innovators

Plans abound, from growing businesses to expanding youth and minorities

By Kate Rosenblatt
and Jim Odom

When we stand at the beginning of a new year, we often think about the resolutions we want to make. For their 2016 business goals, a group of Chicago innovators shared their plans for the year ahead. From expanding local businesses to growing youth and minority-owned enterprises, these leaders have big ideas for the future of Chicago. We asked them to share their resolutions and how they plan to achieve them.

CRISTIANE BERNARD, CEO of Digital Commerce Chicago, says she wants to see more women and minorities in leadership roles. "I want to see more women and minorities in leadership roles," she says. "I want to see more women and minorities in leadership roles." Bernard is the CEO of Digital Commerce Chicago, a company that helps businesses grow online. She is also a member of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and the National Association of Minority Business Owners (NAMBO).

ANDREA ROSENBLATT, CEO of Blue Sky Innovation, says she wants to see more women and minorities in leadership roles. "I want to see more women and minorities in leadership roles," she says. "I want to see more women and minorities in leadership roles." Rosenblatt is the CEO of Blue Sky Innovation, a company that helps businesses grow online. She is also a member of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and the National Association of Minority Business Owners (NAMBO).

JIM ODOM, CEO of Blue Sky Innovation, says he wants to see more women and minorities in leadership roles. "I want to see more women and minorities in leadership roles," he says. "I want to see more women and minorities in leadership roles." Odom is the CEO of Blue Sky Innovation, a company that helps businesses grow online. He is also a member of the National Association of Women Business Owners (NAWBO) and the National Association of Minority Business Owners (NAMBO).

Jimmy Odom
- November 2, 2017 -

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TOP PRIME BIG DEAL DAYS SAVINGS LIVE ON DAY ONE

By **Jennifer Blair**
BestReviews

Amazon’s annual fall sales event — Prime Big Deal Days — is offering significant savings on plenty of popular products. Occurring Tuesday and Wednesday, the sale offers an excellent opportunity to stock up on essentials and splurge on items you’ve had your eye on for a while.

Whether you’re looking for wireless headphones for someone on your holiday list, a new vacuum for your home or a great deal on your favorite skin care products, we’ve collected some of our favorite day-one Prime Big Deal Days deals.

We’re especially excited to see discounts on items such as the Beats Studio Buds + True Wireless Noise Cancelling Earbuds, the Amazon Fire TV Stick HD and the BISSELL Little Green Portable Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner.

Best day-one deals

During this highly anticipated sales event, we expect deals on many of our favorite products. We’ve selected the best discounts we’re seeing to help get your shopping started, but please note that Prime Big Deal Days is a live event. The deals available at the time of writing may no longer be available.

[Beats Studio Buds + True Wireless Noise Cancelling Earbuds](#)

These comfortable earbuds deliver clear, immersive sound, allowing you to enjoy music, podcasts, audiobooks and calls on the go. They offer both an active noise-canceling mode to block exterior sounds and a transparency mode that ensures you hear what’s going on around you. The battery provides up to 36 hours of listening time.

[Beats Solo 4 Wireless Bluetooth On-Ear Headphones](#)

These lightweight, ergonomically designed headphones are comfortable enough to wear all day. You get top-notch audio, too, with custom acoustic architecture and updated drivers. Best of all, they offer up to 50 hours of battery life that can take you through plenty of playlists or podcast episodes.

[CAROTE 19-Piece Nonstick Pots and Pans Set](#)

Upgrade your cookware game with this easy-to-use and care-for pots and pans set. It is ideal for kitchens with limited storage space because the handles are removable for convenient stacking. Their enhanced nonstick surface makes cleanup a breeze, too.

[Burt’s Bees Coconut and Lotus Micellar Face Wipes, 3 Pack](#)

Made with upcycled cotton, these cruelty-free facial towelettes remove dirt, oil and makeup without any scrubbing. They are suitable for all skin types and have a fresh coconut and lotus water scent. They don’t contain any parabens or phthalates, either.

[Amazon Fire TV Stick HD](#)

Stream your favorite movies and TV shows in full HD with this convenient streaming stick. Its plug-and-play design makes it incredibly easy to set up, connecting to any TV’s HDMI port. It also includes an Alexa Voice Remote that lets you ask Alexa to find and launch titles across multiple apps.

[DEWALT 20V MAX Cordless Drill and Impact Driver](#)

Tackle all the DIY projects on your list this fall with this cordless drill combo kit. The drill features a two-speed transmission and a high-performance motor, allowing you to work quickly and easily. It is also lightweight and compact, so it can fit into tight areas.

[LEGO Classic Large Creative Brick Box](#)

For any kids who love creative building, this LEGO box set is sure to be a hit this holiday season. It contains just under 800 pieces in 33 different colors, offering up bricks, windows, doors, green baseplates, tires and wheel rims to get children’s imaginations going. Kids aged 4 and up can build houses, vehicles, figures and more for hours of fun.

[BISSELL Little Green Portable Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner](#)

This portable machine makes it easy to remove stains from carpeting, rugs, furniture, car interiors and more. Its powerful suction and 1000-watt steam power pull dirt and liquids from surfaces to make quick work of any mess. Its large water tank also means you can clean large areas between refills.

[La Roche-Posay Toleriane Double Repair Face Moisturizer](#)

Stock up on this ultra-hydrating moisturizer before dry winter weather arrives. Containing a combination of ceramides, niacinamide, glycerin and prebiotic thermal-

water, it provides up to 48 hours of moisture and helps repair the skin barrier. The formula is also oil-free, so it won’t clog pores.

[LEVOIT Cordless Vacuum Cleaner](#)

Ditch your bulky upright vacuum for this lightweight cordless model that can still handle pet hair and long hair with ease. It features a tangle-resistant design and an easy-to-clean, detachable roller, making maintenance a breeze. It also boasts a five-stage filtration system that can effectively capture dust, pet dander and other allergens.

[Apple AirPods Pro 2 Wireless Earbuds](#)

There’s a good reason why these are some of the most popular earbuds on the market. They feature active noise cancellation that can remove up to twice as much background noise as previous models. Their H2 chip provides truly immersive audio and can help isolate voice during calls.

Other day-one Prime Big Deal Days deals worth checking out:

- [Minties Dental Treats for Dogs](#)
- [Apple AirTag, 4 Pack](#)
- [BLACK+DECKER dustbuster AdvancedClean Cordless Handheld Vacuum](#)
- [Keurig K-Express Single Serve K-Cup Pod Coffee Maker](#)
- [Waterpik Aquarius Water Flosser](#)
- [Apple 11” iPad](#)
- [Mellani Twin Sheets Set](#)
- [Rubbermaid Brilliance Food Storage Containers](#)
- [Ulike Laser Hair Removal Device](#)
- [Picasso Tiles 100-Piece Magnet Building Tile Set](#)

Prices listed reflect time and date of publication and are subject to change.

Hot October deals under \$100

By **Jennifer Blair**
BestReviews

Prime Big Deal Days, Amazon’s annual fall sales event, offers impressive discounts on everything from 4K TVs to high-end exercise equipment.

But while it can be an ideal time to splurge on pricier items on your wishlist, budget-minded shoppers can find plenty of great deals on items under \$100.

Whether you’re looking for wireless earbuds, electric tools or toys for your holiday gift list, you can find discounts on many items that won’t break the bank. We’re especially excited to see discounts on products like the Amazon Echo Pop, the LEVOIT Core300-P Air Purifier and the Embark Dog Breed Identification Kit, but check out our other favorite Prime Big Deal Days deals that you can score for under \$100.

Top deals under \$100

Amazon Echo Pop: This compact smart speaker easily fits in any room, making it an excellent addition to bedrooms and home offices. It allows you to access music streaming services like Amazon Music, Apple Music and Spotify and even lets you use voice commands to search for your favorite artists. You can also use it to control smart home devices with voice commands or the Alexa app.

Vital Proteins Collagen Peptides Advanced Powder: This versatile, easy-to-use powder not only supports collagen production but also contains 100% of your daily value of vitamin C. It also features 120 milligrams of hyaluronic acid to help boost skin hydration and elasticity. It dissolves in both hot and cold beverages, allowing you to mix it into coffee, tea or smoothies for an easy collagen boost.

Picasso Tiles 100-Piece Magnet Building Tiles Set: Get a head start on your holiday toy shopping with this fun building set. It is designed for children ages three and up and offers endless 3D building possibilities. The pieces are made of BPA-free plastic and feature strong magnets that make building easy, even for little fingers.

ChomChom Pet Hair Remover and Reusable Lint Roller: If you love your dog or cat but not all the hair they leave everywhere, this pet hair roller makes it easy to clean up. It doesn’t use any adhesive or tape to remove hair and lint, making it a sustainable option that can be used repeatedly. It works especially well for cleaning furniture, pillows, rugs and car interiors.

LEVOIT Core300-P Air Purifier: This powerful air purifier can clean areas up to 1,073 square feet with its HEPA filter. It effectively removes up to 99.97% of airborne particles between 0.1 and 0.3

microns, including dust, pollen and dander. It weighs just 8 pounds, so it’s easy to move around the house.

Crest 3D Professional Effects Whitening Strips: Get your smile up to 19 shades whiter with these convenient whitening strips. They have a super strong grip, so you can talk and even drink water without worrying about them slipping. Each set contains 20 treatments, including both upper and lower strips, as well as two bonus treatments.

Amazon Basics Slim Velvet Clothes Hangers: Keep your closet organized with these velvet-covered hangers. They have a slim profile that helps maximize space, and each can hold up to 10 pounds, thanks to a metal core. The notched shoulders ensure that your clothes stay in place.

Apple AirTags, 4 Pack: Never lose your keys, wallet or luggage again with these easy-to-use trackers. They require a simple one-tap setup that instantly connects the tags to your iPhone or iPad. Their built-in speaker plays a chime to help you locate missing items, but you can also use the Find My app to find your items.

Embark Dog Breed Identification Kit: Find out what breed your rescue pup really is with this DNA kit. It screens for over 400 dog breeds using research-grade geno-

typing developed in conjunction with the Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. It also identifies any relatives of your pet that have used the test.

HOTO Electric Screwdriver: This convenient electric screwdriver features a magnetic tip, making it quick and easy to switch between the 12 included drill bits. It is extremely lightweight and comfortable to hold and recharges easily with the included USB-C cord. It also comes with a frosted aluminum alloy storage box for all the bits.

Other Prime Big Deal Days deals under \$100 worth considering:

- [Beats Studio Buds](#)
- [Optimum Nutrition Gold Standard 100% Whey Protein Powder](#)
- [Melissa & Doug Dust Sweep Mop 6-Piece Play Set](#)
- [oneisall Dog Clipper and Grooming Kit](#)
- [BISSELL Little Green Multi-Purpose Portable Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner](#)
- [Neutrogena Ultra Sheer Dry-Touch Sunscreen Lotion SPF 70](#)
- [American Soft Linen Luxury 6-Piece Towel Set](#)
- [Ring Battery Doorbell](#)
- [Squishmallows Original Sanrio 14” Hello Kitty](#)
- [Rocco & Roxie Stain & Odor Eliminator](#)

Prices listed reflect time and date of publication and are subject to change.

Chicago Tribune
BUSINESS

Walgreens to exit Chicago's Old Post Office building

Announcement comes shortly after sale of company to private equity firm

By Lisa Schencker and Brian J. Rogal
Chicago Tribune

Walgreens plans to exit its space at Chicago's Old Post Office, with its headquarters remaining in Deerfield, the company confirmed Monday — news that comes shortly after the sale of Walgreens to a private equity firm.

Walgreens will leave the massive, riverfront structure in January, as the company aims to “renew our focus on our stores and customer experience,” said spokesperson Fraser Engerman.

“Our commitment to serving communities across the country begins in our pharmacies and retail locations, and this decision reflects our continued prioritization of those investments,” Engerman said.



In 2020, Walgreens was announced as a tenant in the lobby of the Old Post Office building at 433 W. Van Buren St. in Chicago. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Engerman declined to say how many employees now work at the Old Post Office. But Walgreens moved many of its digital and IT employees there in early 2020, making it one of the

first tenants in the building after it was renovated into an upscale office property. In 2019, Walgreens said it had leased about 200,000 square feet in the Old Post Office and planned to relo-

cate 1,800 employees there. In 2023, more than 3,500 employees worked at the Deerfield headquarters and at the Old Post Office, combined.

Walgreens was one of

many corporate giants, including McDonalds and Motorola Solutions, which before COVID-19, left obsolete suburban campuses for Chicago's then-vibrant downtown, transforming underused buildings such as the Old Post Office into high tech office centers.

“It was such a big announcement when (Walgreens) said they were leaving Deerfield and coming to Chicago, and it doesn't seem that long ago, so to reverse such an important decision after only a few years is surprising,” said Dougal Jeppe, executive vice president of Colliers, a commercial real estate firm. “Granted, it's a new company, and it's in a world of financial hurt.”

Walgreens' lease at the Old Post Office, where it occupies most of the first floor, runs through 2032, according to CoStar. It's not clear if the company can quickly terminate its lease with property owner 601W Cos., or must find other firms willing to sublease the space.

601W Cos. did not immediately return a message seeking comment.

Either way, the empty space won't be easy to fill, Jeppe said. The downtown office market is struggling with a historically high vacancy rate, and the Old Post Office's big, open floor plates are most attractive to tech workers, a sector not seeing much growth.

“(The Old Post Office) is a special asset for special tenants,” Jeppe said. “It's not getting law firms.”

But 601W Cos. should be able to absorb the hit, he added. The 2.3 million square foot Old Post Office is about 99% leased, and Walgreens' financial troubles seem unique.

“I don't think this is a harbinger of other companies deciding to go back to Deerfield or Schaumburg,” Jeppe said. “And 601W Cos. have said they are looking to buy other buildings downtown, so they are clearly not hurting.”

Turn to Walgreens, Page 3

Lurie again named best children's hospital in Illinois by US News

By Lisa Schencker
Chicago Tribune

Lurie Children's Hospital again ranks as the top children's hospital in Illinois, and the third best in the Midwest, according to U.S. News & World Report.

UChicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital was named as the second best in the state and tied with several other hospitals for 16th in the Midwest.

Advocate Children's Hospital was ranked third best children's hospital in Illinois and tied for 23rd in the Midwest. Lurie tied with five other hospitals for third best in the region.

No Illinois children's hospital made the national top 10 list. The last time an Illinois hospital was ranked among the top 10 nationally was when Lurie earned the distinction in 2018.

To rank hospitals, U.S. News, along with research firm RTI International, analyzed data from 118 children's hospitals across the country and surveyed thousands of pediatric specialists. The rankings looked at data such as patient survival, infection rates, complications and hospital staffing. U.S. News examined care across 11 pediatric specialties.

Lurie ranked among the top 25 hospitals in the country for each of the 11 specialties. It notched sixth place in the country for pediatric urology, and seventh in the nation for pediatric nephrology and neurology and neurosurgery.

Dr. Marcelo Malakooti, Lurie chief medical officer, said he's “immensely proud” of all the members of Lurie's team, saying they provide “world-class care.” The hospital has been able

to hold onto its top ranking in Illinois thanks partly to a focus on adhering to best practices for patient safety and quality, he said.

“We continue to improve each and every year on the metrics that are measured,” Malakooti said.

Comer had three specialties rank among the top 50 in the country — pediatric cancer; diabetes and endocrinology; and neurology and neurosurgery. Advocate had one specialty rank among the top 50, pediatric cardiology and heart surgery.

Though hospitals often highlight high rankings in their advertising to help attract patients, experts say families should use them as just one piece of information when choosing a hospital. A number of organizations rate hospitals across the country each year, using different methodologies.

The best hospital for an individual child's care may not always be the No. 1 pediatric hospital in a state or region, said Ben Harder, chief of health care analytics for U.S. News & World Report.

“The right care is multifactorial, and being close to home and in the hands of providers and a care team the family trusts is vital,” Harder said.

Also, many general hospitals, not just pediatric hospitals, may actually be the best choices for children experiencing more common childhood emergencies, such as concussions, broken arms or asthma attacks, Harder said. Many hospitals across the U.S. can treat children experiencing emergencies even if they're not actual pediatric hospitals.

The U.S. News rankings

Turn to Lurie, Page 3



People walk past Lurie Children's Hospital on Feb. 8, 2024, in the Streeterville neighborhood. **EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**



Members of Teamsters Local 705 continue their strike against the company Mauser Packaging Solutions on Monday at 3201 S. Millard Ave. in Chicago. **TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Mauser plans to close plant in Little Village amid strike

Company would shutter facility on Nov. 21; 160 workers impacted

By Talia Soglin
Chicago Tribune

Four months into a strike at its Little Village plant, Oak Brook-based Mauser Packaging Solutions says it is “tentatively” planning to shutter the facility.

The Mauser workers have been striking for improved working conditions and contract language that would protect them from workplace immigration raids — at a time when Chicago is in the crosshairs of President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown. The workers, most of them Latino and many of them immigrants, are members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 705.

Mauser says it is planning to shutter the facility, where some workers have labored for years, on Nov. 21. Around 160 workers will be impacted by the closure.

In an email that did not explicitly mention the strike, company spokesperson Kimberly Braam said the plant was facing a “range of operational challenges” and that keeping it open was “no longer aligned” with the company's “broader strategy to optimize resources and efficiently allocate capital.”

“Market dynamics have shifted, including reduced demand and heightened competition,” Braam said. “Recent changes in business volume have been effectively managed through other Mauser locations.”

The Teamsters' chief negotiator, Nico Coronado, said he doesn't buy it.

“We can't think of anything other than retaliation,” he said.

Coronado said the union is seeking an injunction from the National Labor Relations Board to prevent the closure of the plant. The NLRB has currently discontinued most of its operations during the government shutdown that began last week, according to agency documents.

The Mauser workers, who repurpose steel drums used to transport chemicals, first walked off the job in early June.

In interviews with the Tribune from the picket line, they described working around chemicals in poorly ventilated conditions. They aren't always given sufficient uniforms, they said, which means they sometimes have to work in their own clothes, and then take them home to wash with their families' laundry.

The workers were also asking for the company not to allow federal immigration officers onto its property unless the agents had a signed judicial warrant.

The company has consistently refused to agree to that provision, the union has said, and workers rejected the company's last, best and final offer in August.

Dante Woodson, 22, has worked at the plant for around a year. He'll need to find a new job to support himself as he works his way toward earning an HVAC and electrical technician certification, he said.

But for some of his co-workers, Woodson said, the closure will hit harder. “They have family on the line,” he said.

In a statement provided by the company, CEO Mark Burgess said that “closing this facility was not an easy decision, especially knowing the effect it has on our team members, their families, and the surrounding community.”

Mauser sent letters in late September to workers notifying them of the planned closure at the Little Village plant, the Teamsters said.

“If the Company and the Union are unable to reach a resolution that avoids the permanent closure of the facility, the Company will permanently lay off employees, including you, begin-

ning on November 21, 2025, or the 14-day period beginning on that date,” one letter reviewed by the Tribune read.

Braam did not elaborate on what kind of resolution would be sufficient to prevent the closure of the plant. Coronado said the union understood the notice to suggest that the union would need to accept the final offer that workers voted to reject this summer.

Mauser, which says it has about 11,000 employees around the world, was formed in 2018 by a merger of four companies. At the time, it said it had a consolidated revenue of about \$4 billion.

Even though the closure is occurring amid an ongoing strike, the burden would be on the union to prove the company is closing the 3201 S. Millard Ave. for reasons other than legitimate business ones, said Bob Bruno, director of the labor studies program at the University of Illinois.

“The law really does favor the employer,” he said.

In addition to being currently paralyzed by the government shutdown, the NLRB has been significantly weakened since earlier this year, when Trump fired board member Gwynne Wilcox in an unprecedented move that left the board without a quorum.

Paramount buys website, sets Weiss over CBS News

Ellison says Free Press founder will ‘shape editorial priorities’

By David Bauder
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Paramount said Monday that it has bought the news and commentary website The Free Press and installed its founder, Bari Weiss, as the editor-in-chief of CBS News, saying it believes the country longs for balanced, fact-based news.

It’s a bold step for the television network of Walter Cronkite, Dan Rather and “60 Minutes,” long viewed by many conservatives as the personification of a liberal media establishment. The network is placing someone in a leadership role who has developed a reputation for resisting orthodoxy and fighting “woke” culture.

“I am confident her entrepreneurial drive and editorial vision will invigorate CBS News,” said David Ellison, who took the helm this summer as the corporate leader overseeing the network when his company, Skydance, purchased Paramount. “This move is part of Paramount’s bigger

vision to modernize content and the way it connects — directly and passionately — to audiences around the world.”

No purchase price was announced for The Free Press, which has grown to reach 1.5 million subscribers since Weiss started it in 2021 after leaving The New York Times as an opinion editor. When she left the Times, she wrote a letter of resignation that spoke of a culture of intolerance at the newspaper and said she was bullied by colleagues who disagreed with her.

Weiss will report directly to Ellison and partner with current CBS News President Tom Cibrowski, who reports to Paramount executive George Cheeks.

Editor-in-chief is a new role at CBS News. Ellison said Weiss will “shape editorial priorities, champion core values across platforms and lead innovation in how the organization reports and delivers the news.”

In a letter to CBS News employees Monday, Weiss said watching CBS was part of a family tradition growing up in Pittsburgh. Her goal in the next few weeks is to get to know the staff, she said.

“I want to hear from you about what’s

working, what isn’t and your thoughts on how we can make CBS News the most trusted news organization in America and the world,” Weiss wrote.

Some at CBS News have been concerned about what they see as signs that the news division is moving in a direction friendlier to President Donald Trump.

Paramount’s merger with Skydance was approved by the administration shortly after Paramount settled the president’s lawsuit against “60 Minutes.” Ellison has hired Kenneth Weinstein, former head of a conservative think tank and a Trump contributor, as an ombudsman to examine complaints about CBS News.

“60 Minutes,” which is two weeks into its new season, has been seeking an interview with Trump.

CBS is generally third in popularity behind ABC and NBC, but “60 Minutes” and “CBS News Sunday Morning” have devoted fan bases.

Weiss will remain as the boss of The Free Press, which she indicated would expand more quickly with Paramount’s money. She said in a letter to subscribers that The Free Press will help reshape CBS News.

AMD chips to power OpenAI’s computing

Associated Press

Semiconductor maker AMD will supply its chips to artificial intelligence company OpenAI as part of an agreement to team up on building AI infrastructure, the companies said Monday.

OpenAI also will get the option to buy as much as a 10% stake in AMD, according to a joint statement announcing the deal. It’s the latest deal for the ChatGPT maker as it races to beef up its AI computing resources.

OpenAI will buy the latest version of AMD’s high-performance graphics chips, the Instinct MI450, set to debut next year.

The agreement calls for supplying 6 gigawatts of computing power for OpenAI’s “next generation” AI infrastructure, with the first batch of chips worth 1 gigawatt to be deployed in the second half of 2026.

“This partnership is a major step in building the compute capacity needed to realize AI’s full potential,” OpenAI CEO Sam Altman said in a release. “AMD’s leadership in high-performance chips will enable us to accelerate progress and bring the benefits of advanced AI to everyone faster.”

The deal is a boost for Santa Clara, California-based AMD, which has been left behind by rival Nvidia. But it also hints at OpenAI’s desire to diversify its supply chain away from Nvidia’s dominance. The AI boom has fueled demand for Nvidia’s graphics processing chips, sending its shares soaring and making it the world’s most valuable company.

Last month, OpenAI and Nvidia announced a \$100 billion partnership that will add at least 10 gigawatts of data center computing power.

Barclays analysts said in a note to investors Monday that OpenAI’s AMD deal is less about taking share away from Nvidia than it is a sign of how much computing is needed to meet AI demand.



Damien Browne, VP of research and development for PepsiCo's beverages, speaks Sept. 19 at its campus in Valhalla, N.Y. RICHARD DREW/AP

Pepsi’s artificial dyes fizzle out

Company tests ingredients to make products likes Cheetos, Gatorade with natural colors

By Dee-Ann Durbin and Ted Shaffrey
Associated Press

VALHALLA, New York — Pepsi has a new challenge: keeping products like Gatorade and Cheetos vivid and colorful without the artificial dyes that U.S. consumers are increasingly rejecting.

PepsiCo, which also makes Doritos, Cap’n Crunch cereal, Funyuns and Mountain Dew, announced in April that it would accelerate a planned shift to using natural colors in its foods and beverages. Around 40% of its U.S. products contain synthetic dyes, according to the company.

But just as it took decades for artificial colors to seep into PepsiCo’s products, removing them is likely to be a multiyear process. The company said it’s still finding new ingredients, testing consumers’ responses and waiting for the Food and Drug Administration to approve natural alternatives.

PepsiCo hasn’t committed to meeting the Trump administration’s goal of phasing out

petroleum-based synthetic dyes by the end of 2026.

“We’re not going to launch a product that the consumer’s not going to enjoy,” said Chris Coleman, PepsiCo’s senior director for food research and development in North America. “We need to make sure the product is right.”

Coleman said it can take two or three years to shift a product from an artificial color to a natural one. PepsiCo has to identify a natural ingredient that will have a stable shelf life and not change a product’s flavor. Then it must ensure the availability of a safe and adequate supply. The company tests prototypes with trained experts and panels of consumers, then makes sure the new formula won’t snag its manufacturing process.

It also has to design new packaging.

Tostitos and Lay’s will be the first PepsiCo brands to make the shift, with naturally dyed tortilla and potato chips expected on store shelves this year and naturally dyed dips expected to be on sale early next year. Most of the chips, dips and salsas in the two lines already are naturally colored, but there were some exceptions.

The reddish-brown tint of Tostitos Salsa Verde, for example, came from four

synthetic colors: Yellow 5, Yellow 6, Red 40 and Blue 1. Coleman said the company is switching to carob powder, which gives the chips a similar color, but needed to tweak the recipe to ensure that the addition of the cocoa alternative wouldn’t affect the taste.

In its Frito-Lay food labs and test kitchens in Plano, Texas, PepsiCo is experimenting with ingredients like paprika and turmeric to mimic the bright reds and oranges in products like Flamin’ Hot Cheetos, Coleman said.

When the Pepsi-Cola Co. was founded in 1902, the absence of artificial dyes was a point of pride. The company marketed Pepsi as “The Original Pure Food Drink” to differentiate the cola from rivals that used lead, arsenic and other toxins as food colorants before the U.S. banned them in 1906.

But synthetic dyes eventually won over food companies. They were vibrant, consistent and cheaper than natural colors. They are also rigorously tested by the FDA.

Still, PepsiCo said it started seeing a small segment of shoppers asking for products without artificial colors or flavors more than two decades ago. In 2002, it launched its Simply line of chips, which offer natural versions of products like Doritos. A dye-free organic Gatorade came out in 2016.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Fifth Third buying Comerica for \$10.9B

Fifth Third Bancorp is buying Comerica for \$10.9 billion in an all-stock deal, tying up two big regional banks.

The buyout will create the ninth-largest U.S. bank with about \$288 billion in assets, the companies said Monday.

The combined company will have operations in the Southeast, Texas and California, and will greatly solidify Fifth Third’s position in the Midwest.

Comerica’s stockholders will receive 1.8663 Fifth Third shares for each share they own.

This represents \$82.88 per share as of Fifth Third’s closing stock price Friday.

Fifth Third shareholders will own about 73% of the combined company, while Comerica shareholders will own about 27%. — Associated Press

Former PayPal CEO named Verizon chief

Verizon Communications chose the former CEO of PayPal as its next CEO, taking over the post from Hans Vestberg.

Dan Schulman, who has served as a Verizon board member since 2018 and is its lead independent director, will become CEO of the New York company immediately.

Vestberg will serve as a special adviser until Oct. 4, 2026. In that time, he will focus on the transition process, which includes the integration with Frontier Communications, expected to close early next year.

The transaction is also a way for Verizon to shore up its foray into artificial intelligence and connected smart devices.

“Verizon is at a critical juncture,” Schulman said Monday. “We have a clear opportunity to redefine our trajectory, by growing our market share.” — Associated Press

Pope changes Vatican financial management

By Nicole Winfield
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Leo XIV has begun correcting some of Pope Francis’ more questionable financial reforms and decisions, canceling a law Monday that had concentrated financial power in the Vatican bank.

Leo abrogated the 2022 law that had decreed that management of the Holy See’s assets was the “exclusive responsibility” of the Institute of Religious Works.

In his first executive decree, Leo published a new law Monday that says the Holy See generally does use the IOR but can turn to non-Vatican banks in other countries if the Vatican’s investment committee

“deems it more efficient or convenient” to do so.

The law was the clearest sign yet that Leo is starting to fix some of Francis’ more problematic decisions and is recalibrating the Vatican’s centers of power; Francis tended to lean heavily on the advice of the IOR and its top manager.

The 2022 law had taken many in the Vatican by surprise because it appeared to contradict the Holy See’s founding constitution, which says the patrimony office, APSA, is responsible for administering the Vatican’s real estate and financial holdings.

Even Francis realized the problem and had intended to fix it, Vatican officials said, but he died in April.

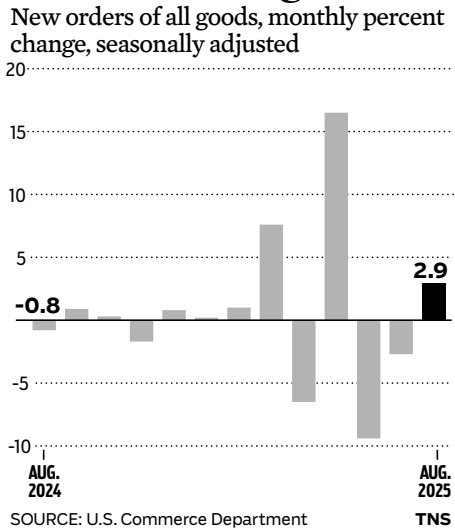
It was the second significant move that

Leo has taken in as many weeks to reform some of Francis’ decisions. The head of a new fundraising commission was reassigned. The commission also lacked qualified fundraisers, and the absence of any Americans immediately raised questions about the commission’s credibility. Americans are among the biggest donors to the Holy See, but they also demand levels of transparency and accountability that the Vatican haven’t always followed.

The change in leadership suggests that Leo is planning to revamp the commission.

Monday also saw another dramatic development in the Vatican’s long-running financial trial, which saw a cardinal convicted of embezzlement. The appeals court adjourned the trial until Feb. 3.

Manufacturing orders



In testing, scientists let sharks nip new bite-resistant wet suits

By Patrick Whittle
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — Australian scientists tested the strength of bite-resistant wet suits by allowing sharks to chomp the materials at sea and found that the suits can help keep swimmers safe.

Fatal shark bites are vanishingly rare, with fewer than 50 unprovoked shark bites on humans worldwide in 2024, according to the International Shark Attack File at the Florida Museum of Natural History. But increased sightings of large sharks in some parts of the world have swimmers, surfers and divers looking for new ways to stay safe.

Scientists with Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia, tested four bite-resistant materials and found that they all reduced the amount of damage from shark bites.

They performed the work by dragging samples of the materials behind boats and allowing white and tiger sharks to bite the samples.

The bites from such large sharks can still cause internal and crushing injuries, but the materials showed effectiveness beyond a standard neoprene wet suit, the scientists said. The research found that the bite-resistant materials “can reduce injuries sustained from shark encounters,” said Flinders professor Charlie Huvneers, a study co-author.

“Bite-resistant material do not prevent shark bites, but can reduce injuries from shark bites and can be worn by surfers and divers,” Huvneers said.

There were small differences between the four tested materials, but they all “reduced the amount of substantial and critical damage, which would typically be associated with

severe hemorrhaging and tissue or limb loss,” said Tom Clarke, a researcher with the science and engineering college at Flinders and a study co-author.

Chain mail suits to resist shark bites have existed for decades but lack flexibility for aquatic activities like surfing and diving, the scientists said in research published Sept. 25 in the journal Wildlife Research. Newer wet suits can be designed to provide flexibility as well as protection.

The scientists tested the efficacy of wet suit materials Aqua Armour, Shark Stop, ActionTX-S and Brewster. The scientists said in their paper that all of the materials “offer an improved level of protection that can reduce severe wounds and blood loss, and should be considered as part of the toolbox and measures available to reduce shark-bite risk and resulting injuries.”

Walgreens

from Page 1

Walgreens Boots Alliance was sold in August for \$10 billion to private equity firm Sycamore Partners. The sale took the company private and split it into five standalone companies: Walgreens, The Boots Group, Shields Health Solutions, CareCentrix and VillageMD. When the deal closed, a new CEO — Mike Motz, formerly CEO of Staples US Retail — was appointed to lead Walgreens.

Critics of private equity firms’ involvement in health care have worried that the deal could lead to layoffs, further store closures and reduced pharmacy access, though some analysts have said the sale could help to better facilitate a turnaround for Walgreens.

The sale followed years of financial struggles, as Walgreens faced industrywide challenges as well as fallout from an ill-fated attempt to become more of a health care destination by providing primary care services through VillageMD.

Last year, Walgreens announced that it would close 1,200 stores over a three-year span, including in Chicago.

Though the company’s headquarters is still in Deerfield, that presence has also been scaled back in recent years. In 2022, Walgreens put its old headquarters up for sale, ultimately vacating 575,000 square feet of office buildings on 37 acres at 1411-1435 Lake Cook Road.

The company then moved its Deerfield employees to other buildings in Deerfield along I-94.

Lurie

from Page 1

may be most useful for parents whose children have complex or challenging medical conditions that require months or years of follow-up care, he said.

U.S. News ranked as the top 10 children’s hospitals across the country this year, in alphabetical order: Boston Children’s Hospital, Children’s Hospital Colorado, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Children’s

National Hospital in Washington, D.C., Cincinnati Children’s, Nationwide Children’s Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, Rady Children’s Hospital in San Diego, Seattle Children’s Hospital and Texas Children’s Hospital in Houston.

ANALYSIS

Fed’s independence still at risk despite temporary legal victory

By Colby Smith
The New York Times

Lisa Cook notched a temporary win in her legal battle against President Donald Trump last week when the Supreme Court said she could remain a governor on the Federal Reserve Board.

But the threat to the Fed’s long-standing independence will continue to loom large over the central bank for at least the next several months.

On Wednesday, the Supreme Court allowed Cook to remain in her job while her lawsuit proceeds. The president, who has tried to gain more control over the Fed, tried to fire her over unproven allegations of mortgage fraud.

Still, the decision — part of a two-sentence, unsigned order — fell short of a decisive victory for the central bank. Instead, the court agreed to wait to rule on Cook’s status until after it hears arguments on the matter in January.

“It’s a time to exhale but not breathe easy,” said Peter Conti-Brown, an expert on Fed governance at the University of Pennsylvania. “The wrecking ball that the Trump administration has been wielding through the administrative state just hit a brick wall that it could not crumble.”

Conti-Brown warned, however, that the issue is far from resolved.

Trump has accused Cook of committing mortgage fraud, citing that as justification to fire her.

Under the Federal Reserve Act of 1913, the president can remove a Fed official only “for cause” — which has typically meant gross malfeasance or a neglect of duty while serving in the job. Congress put that safeguard in place to ensure that the Fed is protected from undue meddling by the president.



Lisa Cook, seen June 25, has been a governor of the Federal Reserve Board since 2022. SAUL LOEB/GETTY-AFP

Cook, who has not been charged with a crime, has argued that the Trump administration’s allegations are “flimsy” and “unproven.” She has also said Trump did not give her ample time to rebut them before he fired her.

It is not the first time Trump has taken aim at the country’s independent agencies. But the order Wednesday reaffirmed that the Supreme Court views the Fed as a distinct one.

This year, the court granted the president the ability to remove leaders of independent institutions like the Federal Trade Commission and the National Labor Relations Board while the cases are being litigated. Trump fired Democratic officials from those two agencies purely because of policy differences, something previous court rulings barred.

Jeremy Kress, a law professor at the University of Michigan who previously worked as a lawyer at the Fed, said the court’s move gave him more confidence that the justices would eventually side with Cook. Still, he cautioned against reading too much into what he described as an “unexplained procedural order.”

“Without a substantive rationale for why the

Fed should be treated differently from the FTC or NLRB, (the) decision may simply be a temporary reprieve while the court considers how much control to give the president over the administrative state,” he said.

How the court ends up ruling will have sweeping ramifications for the central bank, whose independence has formed the backbone of the world’s largest economy and most important financial system.

If the court sides with Cook, the threat to the Fed’s independence will be significantly lessened but not eradicated. One concern was that in ousting Cook, Trump would have an immediate vacancy to fill on the board with another loyalist.

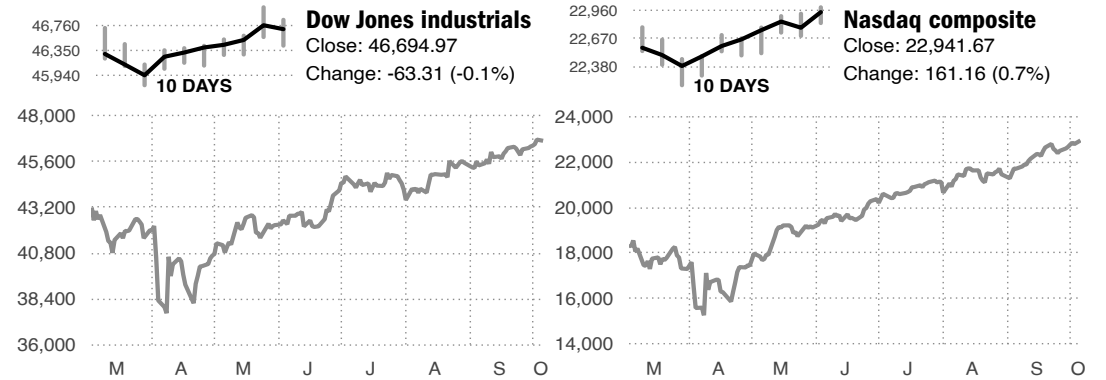
Already, he has been able to fill a spot that opened up unexpectedly in August when Adriana Kugler stepped down several months before her term expired.

His pick to replace her, Stephen Miran, who is taking only a temporary leave of absence from the White House, has already made an impact in his short tenure at the Fed. He dissented when the central bank voted last month to lower interest rates by a quarter of a percentage point, instead favoring a half-point move. He has also spoken out repeatedly about the need for substantially lower borrowing costs.

The board must also vote every five years on the reappointment of all 12 regional Fed bank presidents. The next deadline is at the end of February, adding yet more urgency to the president’s desire to gain control of the board by then. Trump will also get to select a replacement for Fed Chair Jerome Powell, whose term expires in May.

Market Roundup

🔴 DOW 46,694.97 -63.31 -0.14%	🟢 NASDAQ 22,941.67 161.16 0.71%	🟢 S&P 500 6,740.28 24.49 0.36%	🔴 EURO 1.1713 -0.0028 -0.24%	🟢 CRUDE OIL 61.69 0.81 1.33%	🟢 GOLD 3,948.50 67.70 1.74%	🔴 6-MO T-BILLS 3.82 -0.01 -0.26%	🟢 30-YR T-BONDS 4.75 0.04 0.89%
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StocksRecap

	NYSE	NASD	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR	YTD
Vol. (in mil.)	5239	5063									
Pvs. Volume	5380	5395									
Advanced	1212	1885									
Declined	1453	1592									
New Highs	76	109									
New Lows	5	32									

LOCAL STOCKS

NAME	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD CHG	LO	HI	DIV
ANI Pharmaceuticals Inc.	92.06	+2.42	+2.7%	+36.78	52.50	99.50	...
AbbVie Inc.	230.19	-3.72	-1.6%	+52.49	163.81	244.81	6.56
Abbott Laboratories	133.74	-0.85	-0.6%	+20.63	110.86	141.23	2.36
Acco Brands Corp.	4.06	-0.07	-1.7%	-1.19	3.32	6.44	0.30
Addus HomeCare	112.70	-2.16	-1.9%	-12.65	88.96	136.72	...
Adialem Global Education	149.87	+1.38	+0.9%	+59.02	71.09	155.39	0.18
Allstate Corp., The	208.83	-1.99	-0.9%	+16.04	176.00	215.70	4.00
AptarGroup Inc.	131.88	-1.34	-1.0%	-25.22	130.27	178.03	1.92
Archer Daniels Midland Cc	62.45	+1.41	+2.3%	+11.93	40.98	64.38	2.04
BankFinancial	12.28	-0.09	-0.7%	-0.42	10.68	13.97	0.40
Baxter International Inc.	23.15	-0.71	-3.0%	-6.01	21.33	38.28	0.68
Broadwind	2.22	+0.09	+4.2%	+3.4	1.41	3.03	...
Brunswick Corp.	64.61	-1.73	-2.6%	-0.07	41.00	87.65	1.72
CCC Intel Sol Hldg	9.49	+1.1	+1.2%	-2.24	8.15	12.88	...
CDW	157.35	-1.92	-1.2%	-16.69	137.31	226.79	2.50
CF Industries Holdings Inc	92.06	+1.97	+2.2%	+6.74	67.34	104.45	2.00
CME Group Inc.	262.05	-2.62	-1.0%	+29.82	213.94	290.79	5.00
CNA Financial Corp.	46.75	+3.6	+0.8%	-1.62	43.29	51.42	1.84
Cboe Global Markets Inc.	236.84	-2.70	-1.1%	+41.44	187.30	255.27	2.88
Century Aluminum	29.14	-0.73	-2.4%	+10.92	13.05	30.76	...
Chicago Rivet & Machine C	10.21	-0.0	+0.1%	-5.63	8.15	22.27	0.12
Coeur Mining Inc.	19.34	+3.1	+3.3%	+13.62	4.58	19.69	...
ConAgra Brands Inc.	18.72	-0.39	-2.0%	-9.03	17.88	30.47	1.40
Deere & Co.	457.31	-5.57	-1.2%	+33.61	387.03	533.78	6.48
Distribution Solutions Grp	28.74	-0.91	-3.1%	-5.66	21.87	41.47	0.48
Dover Corp.	166.52	-0.09	-0.1%	-21.08	143.04	214.57	2.08
Enova International Inc.	110.52	-2.74	-2.4%	+14.64	79.41	130.34	...
Equity Lifestyle Propert. In	61.77	-0.16	-0.3%	-4.83	58.15	73.67	2.06
Equity Residential	62.22	-1.38	-1.7%	-9.54	59.41	78.32	2.77
Exelon Corp.	45.69	+3.05	+0.8%	+8.05	35.94	48.11	1.60
Federal Signal Corp.	118.36	-0.11	-0.1%	+25.97	66.47	130.30	0.56
First Bussey	23.37	-0.30	-0.9%	-0.20	18.40	28.30	1.00
First Industri.Realty Trust In	51.57	+1.03	+2.0%	+1.44	40.31	58.16	1.78
First Mid Bancshares Inc.	37.62	+1.4	+0.4%	+8.0	27.58	43.86	1.00
Fortune Brands Innovator	51.74	-1.13	-2.1%	-16.59	47.21	90.50	1.00
FreightCar America Inc.	9.62	+1.2	+1.3%	+6.7	4.31	16.10	0.36
Fuel Technologies Inc.	2.96	-0.02	-0.7%	+1.91	8.7	3.65	...
GATX Corp.	176.26	+4.1	+0.2%	+21.30	127.93	178.26	2.44
Gallagher & Co., Arthur J.	309.15	+1.33	+0.4%	+25.30	275.56	351.22	2.60
Gogo Inc.	8.86	+1.3	+1.5%	+7.7	6.20	16.82	...
Grainger Inc., W.W.	958.90	+2.31	+0.0%	-95.15	893.99	1227.68	9.04
Great Lakes Dre.&Dock Cc	11.96	-0.0	0.0%	+6.7	7.51	12.89	0.08
Groupon Inc.	22.57	-0.39	-1.7%	+10.42	7.75	43.08	...
Heidrick & Struggles Intl Ir	58.22	+9.54	+19.6%	+13.91	36.49	58.40	0.60
Horace Mann Educators Cc	44.29	-0.12	-0.3%	+5.06	34.19	47.81	1.40
Hub Group Inc.	34.75	+5.9	+1.7%	-9.81	30.75	53.21	0.50

NAME	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD CHG	LO	HI	DIV
IF Bancorp. Inc.	25.80	+0.5	+0.2%	+2.50	19.52	26.21	0.40
Illinois Tool Works Inc.	258.71	-1.29	-0.5%	+5.15	214.66	279.13	6.44
Ingredion Inc.	120.23	-0.64	-0.5%	-17.33	119.31	155.27	3.28
JBT Marel Corp.	146.82	+1.99	+1.4%	+19.72	90.08	148.76	0.40
John B. Sanfilippo & Son I	63.36	-1.27	-2.0%	-23.75	58.47	97.47	0.90
Jones Lang Lasalle Inc.	291.06	-4.11	-1.4%	+37.92	194.36	322.36	0.43
Kemper Corp.	50.12	-0.52	-1.0%	-16.32	45.02	73.01	1.28
Knowles Corp.	24.41	+3.6	+1.5%	+4.48	12.19	24.52	...
Kraft Heinz	25.27	-0.79	-3.0%	-5.44	25.24	36.31	1.60
LKQ Corp.	30.72	-0.64	-2.0%	-6.03	28.92	44.82	1.20
Lifeway Foods Inc.	25.79	+3.4	+1.3%	+9.9	19.50	34.20	0.08
Littelfuse Inc.	260.51	+1.53	+0.6%	+24.86	144.94	271.81	3.00
MYR Group Inc. (Del.)	199.67	+1.2	+0.1%	+50.90	97.72	220.02	...
McDonald's Corp.	296.04	-4.94	-1.6%	+6.15	276.53	326.32	7.08
Methode Electronics Inc.	8.03	-0.12	-1.5%	-3.76	5.08	17.45	0.28
Middleby Corp.	139.82	-1.22	+0.9%	+4.37	118.09	182.73	...
Mondelez International Inc	61.78	+0.89	+1.4%	+2.05	53.95	72.70	2.00
Morningstar Inc.	223.63	-2.49	-1.1%	-113.13	221.02	365.00	1.82
Motorola Solutions Inc.	457.13	+4.23	+0.9%	-5.10	388.90	507.82	4.36
NISOURCE Inc.	44.17	+3.4	+0.8%	+7.41	33.65	44.52	1.12
Northern Trust Corp.	132.21	-0.19	-0.1%	+29.71	81.62	135.48	3.20
Oil-Dri Corp. of America	60.35	-0.29	-0.5%	+16.53	32.14	69.76	0.72
Old Republic Intl Corp.	43.37	+0.2	+0.0%	+7.18	33.00	44.00	1.16
Old Second Bancorp Inc.	17.53	+2.7	+1.6%	-0.25	14.14	19.46	0.24
OneSpan Inc.	16.23	+4.5	+2.9%	-2.31	12.50	20.36	0.48
Paylocity Holding Corp.	156.42	+7.7	+0.5%	-43.05	151.71	223.80	...
Potbelly Corp.	17.07	-0.01	-0.1%	+7.65	7.27	17.09	...
QCR Holdings Inc.	66.19	+8.4	+1.1%	-4.55	60.83	96.08	0.24
RLI Corp.	74.02	-0.41	-0.6%	-18.30	62.04	91.14	0.64
Richardson Electronics Ltr	9.82	-0.03	-0.3%	-4.41	7.57	15.51	0.24
Ryan Specialty Holdings Ir	57.82	-0.02	-0.0%	-6.34	50.08	77.16	0.48
Stepan Co.	48.63	-0.50	-1.0%	-16.07	44.23	82.08	1.54
Suncoke Energy Inc.	8.36	-0.07	-0.8%	-2.34	7.18	12.82	0.48
Telephone & Data Systems	39.00	-0.53	-1.3%	+4.89	22.51	42.74	0.16
Titan International Inc.	7.86	-0.46	-5.5%	+1.07	5.93	10.94	0.02
Totals Rpt Industries Inc.	43.34	-0.22	-0.5%	+11.01	29.10	43.97	0.36
TransUnion	76.63	-0.71	-0.9%	-16.08	66.38	113.17	0.46
TreeHouse Foods	20.52	-0.75	-3.5%	-14.61	15.84	42.48	...
US Foods Holding Corp.	75.51	+0.67	+0.9%	+8.05	57.36	85.11	...
Ultra Beauty Inc.	566.91	+10.46	+1.9%	+131.98	309.01	567.98	...
United Airlines	97.07	+1.74	+1.8%	-0.03	52.00	116.00	...
Ventas Inc.	69.25	-0.51	-0.7%	+10.36	56.68	71.36	1.92
Wintrust Financial Corp.	132.64	+2.24	+1.7%	+7.93	89.10	142.04	2.00
Yunhong Green CTI Ltd.	5.90	+1.3	+2.3%	+4.4	4.35	11.50	...
Zebra Technologies Corp.	301.94	-3.07	-1.0%	-84.28	205.73	427.76	...

Commodities

Coffee rose 3.44% to \$3.91, leading gains.

Copper fell 1.38% to \$4.987, marking the largest decline.

Unleaded gas increased 2.15% to \$1.9016.



Foreign Exchange

Japanese Yen rose 1.93%, leading gains.

Israeli Shekel fell most at -0.91%.

Euro declined 0.24%, while Canadian Dollar decreased 0.16%.



Interest rates



The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 4.158%.

Yields affect interest rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

	PRIME	FED
YEST	7.25	4.12
6 MO AGO	7.50	4.38
1 YR AGO	7.50	4.38

FUELS	CLOSE	PVS.	CHG	%YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	61.69	60.88	+0.81	-14.0
Heating Oil (gal)	2.24	2.24	-0.01	-2.8
Natural Gas (mm btu)	3.36	3.32	+0.03	-7.6

NATION & WORLD

Trump wades into shutdown standoff

President signals willingness to make deal on health care

By Kevin Freking and Josh Boak Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Monday that he'd be open to striking a deal with Democrats on the health care subsidies they've made central to the shutdown fight, cracking the door slightly to negotiations that Republicans have said should only happen after the government reopens. But Trump also said "billions and billions" are being wasted, nodding to arguments from conservatives who do not want the health subsidies extended to lessen the cost of plans offered under the Affordable Care Act, commonly referred to as Obamacare. "We have a negotiation going on right now with the Democrats that could lead to very good things," Trump said. "And I'm talking about good things with regard to health care."

Trump's comments were one of the few hopeful signs Monday as the government shutdown extended to its sixth day. Negotiations between the two parties have been virtually non-existent since the start of the shutdown despite the impact on federal services. Democrats have been urging that Trump get involved, with many saying no deal will be possible without the president's approval. The two Democratic leaders in Congress, Sen. Chuck Schumer and Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, denied that there are any negotiations with Trump. Jeffries said the White House "has gone



House Speaker Mike Johnson leaves after a news conference Monday at the Capitol in Washington. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP

radio silent" since a meeting in the Oval Office last week. "Trump's claim isn't true, but if he's finally ready to work with Democrats, we'll be at the table," Schumer said. Senate Majority Leader John Thune told reporters "there may be a path forward" on ACA subsidies, but stressed: "I think a lot of it would come down to where the White House lands on that."

The comments came as the Senate prepared to take another seemingly doomed pair of votes Monday on funding the government. Both parties are seeking to ramp up the pressure on the other to end the impasse. Thune said a critical food

aid program for women, infants and children was starting to run low on funds, blaming Democrats and saying "now it's the American people who are suffering the consequences." Schumer said his side was ready to work with Republicans to "reopen the government and end the health care crisis that faces tens of millions of Americans. But it takes two sides to have a negotiation."

Earlier in the day, the two sides dug in. House Speaker Mike Johnson said "there's nothing for us to negotiate" while Jeffries declared the "time is now" to work out a deal on health care. Johnson, R-La., told reporters that they could

stop asking why he wasn't negotiating an end to the impasse and that it was up to a handful of Democrats to "stop the madness" and pass a stopgap spending bill that had been passed in the House. "We did the job to keep the government open, and now it's on the Senate Democrats," he said. The House is not expected to be in session this week, focusing attention on the Senate to take the lead on any deal in the Republican-led Congress. Yet even with House lawmakers away, the Republican and Democratic leaders have been holding almost daily briefings as they frame their arguments and seek to shift

blame for the shutdown. Democrats are insisting on renewing subsidies to cover health insurance costs for millions of households, but Republicans have insisted that can be dealt with later. They say the subsidies are a separate debate than the one on keeping the government funded for a few weeks while the two sides work out their differences on a full-year spending package. Jeffries said in an interview Monday on NBC's "The Today Show" that notices have already started to go out to Americans enrolled in health insurance exchanges established through the Affordable Care Act, with those notices

showing dramatic increases in premiums next year. "That's what people are facing right now, which is why we need to address it," he said. The stalemate comes at a moment of troubling economic uncertainty. While the U.S. economy has continued to grow this year, hiring has slowed and inflation remains elevated as the Republican president's import taxes have created a series of disruptions for businesses and hurt confidence in his leadership. At the same time, there is a recognition that the nearly \$2 trillion annual budget deficit is financially unsustainable. The Trump administration sees the shutdown as an opening to wield greater power over the budget, with multiple officials saying they will save money as workers are furloughed by imposing permanent job cuts on thousands of government workers, a tactic that has never been used before. Trump had seemingly suggested Sunday night that layoffs were already taking place, but White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said Trump was talking about furloughs. Under a furlough, employees cannot report to work, but they will return to their jobs and get paid retroactively after the shutdown. She said layoffs were still planned if the shutdown continues. The talk of layoffs has escalated an already tense situation in which Washington lawmakers have struggled to find common ground and build mutual trust. Leaders in both parties are betting that public sentiment has swung their way, putting pressure on the other side to cave.

California begins voting on district map changes

Outcome may swing control of US House, check Trump power

By Michael R. Blood Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The midterm elections might be a year away, but the fight for control of the U.S. House is underway in California. Voting opened statewide Monday on whether to dramatically reshape California's congressional districts to add as many as five Democrat-held seats — a possible offset to President Donald Trump's moves in Texas and elsewhere to help Republicans in the 2026 election. The outcome of the 70-word, "yes" or "no" question could determine which party wins control of the closely divided House and whether Democrats will be able to blunt Trump's power during the second half of his term on issues from immigration to reproductive rights. The proposal is "a starting point for the 2026 race," Democratic consultant Roger Salazar said. "2026 is the whole ball game."

The national implica-

tions of California's ballot measure are clear in the money it has attracted and in the people getting involved. Tens of millions of dollars are flowing into the race — including a \$5 million donation to opponents from the Congressional Leadership Fund, the super PAC tied to House Speaker Mike Johnson. The election that concludes Nov. 4 will also color the emerging 2028 presidential contest in which Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom — the face of the campaign for the new districts — is widely seen as a likely contender. "Heaven help us if we lose," Newsom wrote in a recent fundraising pitch to supporters. "This is an all-hands-on-deck moment for Democrats."

The unusual special election amounts to a Democratic gambit to blunt Trump's attempt in Texas to gain five Republican districts ahead of the midterms, a move intended to pad the GOP's tenuous grip on the House. The duel between the nation's two most populous states has spread nationally, with Missouri redraw-

ing House maps that are crafted state by state. Other states could soon follow. The dispute also has become entangled in the courts. A major question mark has emerged in Texas, where a panel of federal judges is considering whether the state can use a redrawn congressional map that boosts Republicans. If the Texas map is blocked even temporarily, it's not clear how that decision would influence California — if at all. Newsom previously indicated that California could keep its current map if other states pull back efforts to remake districts for partisan advantage, but that language was not included in the final version of what's officially known as Proposition 50. If approved in California, the new political map could slash five Republican-held House seats while bolstering Democratic incumbents in other battleground districts. That could boost the Democratic margin to 48 of California's 52 congressional seats, up from the 43 seats the party now occupies. Liberal-tilting California has long been a quirk in House elections — the state is heavily Democratic



California Gov. Gavin Newsom speaks at the Clinton Global Initiative on Sept. 24 in New York. Voting on reshaping California's congressional districts started Monday. ANDRES KUDACKI/AP

but also is home to a string of some of the most hotly contested congressional districts in the country, a rarity at a time when truly competitive House elections have been dwindling in number across the U.S. The contours of the race have taken shape, with Newsom framing the contest as a battle to save democracy against all things Trump while Republicans and their supporters decry the proposal as a blatant power grab intended to make the state's dominant Democrats even more powerful while discarding House maps developed by an independent commission.

Democrats crafted the proposed lines behind closed doors. Republicans have a 219-213 majority in the U.S. House, with three vacancies. New maps are typically drawn once a decade after the census is conducted. Many states, including Texas, give legislators the power to draw maps. California is among states that rely on an independent commission that is supposed to be nonpartisan — the Democratic ballot proposal would shelve that group's work and postpone its operation until the next census. With rural and farming areas in some cases being

combined in new districts with populous cities, there is "worry about us losing our voice," said John Chandler, a partner in almond-and-peach grower Chandler Farms in the state's Central Valley farm belt. "It hurts us," he said during an online event organized by proposition opponents. Democrats come to the contest with significant advantages — they outnumber registered Republicans in the state by a nearly 2-to-1 margin, and a Republican candidate hasn't won a statewide election in nearly two decades. Still, ballot questions can be unpredictable.



On Monday, Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman is seen at ICC in The Hague. PIROSCHKA VAN DE WOUW/POOL

ICC makes 1st conviction over atrocities in Sudan's Darfur

By Mike Corder Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The International Criminal Court convicted a leader of the feared Janjaweed militia on Monday of playing a leading role in a campaign of atrocities committed in the Sudanese region of Darfur more than 20 years ago — including ordering mass executions and bludgeoning two prisoners to death with an ax.

It was the first time the court has convicted a suspect of crimes in Darfur. The three-judge panel ruled that the atrocities, including mass murders and rapes, were part of a government plan to snuff out a rebellion there. Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-Al-Rahman, also known as Ali Kushayb, wearing a suit and tie and listening through a headset, showed no emotion as Presiding Judge Joanna Korner read out 27 guilty

verdicts. He will be sentenced at a later date. He faces a maximum life sentence. He was convicted of crimes for leading Janjaweed militia forces in Darfur that went on a campaign of killing and destruction in 2003-04. "He encouraged and gave instructions that resulted in the killings, the rapes and destruction committed by the Janjaweed," Korner said, adding that the verdicts were unanimous.

Abd-Al-Rahman was transferred to ICC custody in 2020, after surrendering in Central African Republic. He pleaded not guilty to charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity when his trial opened in April 2022 and argued that he was not the person known as Ali Kushayb. The judges rejected that defense, saying he even identified himself by his name and nickname in a video when he surrendered. "Finally a victory for

justice, and justice for the victims of Darfur," said Enaam al-Nour, a Darfur rights defender and journalist. The verdicts came as allegations of atrocities and famine emerge from Sudan in a new conflict. In July, the ICC's deputy prosecutor told the United Nations that war crimes and crimes against humanity continue in Sudan's vast western Darfur region where civil war has raged for more than two years.

Silence follows arrests of dissenters

Nicaraguans have little luck tracking down missing kin

By Frances Robles
The New York Times

The police arrived at José Alejandro Hurtado’s house in Nicaragua’s capital one night in January, telling him he had to come to their station house because someone had rented a car using his ID and the vehicle had been stolen.

That’s the last anyone saw of him.

Hurtado, 57, a computer systems engineer and a long-time political activist, is one of nearly three dozen people who human rights groups say have been disappeared by Nicaraguan authorities — taken away with officials refusing to acknowledge their detention or disclose their whereabouts.

Such disappearances are a violation of international law and are especially resonant in Latin America, where the practice has been a hallmark of dictatorships. In Nicaragua, they have been happening within the past two years, the majority of them more recently.

Nearly half of the 73 political prisoners that human rights groups have officially documented in Nicaragua appear in no public court database. They have had no contact with their families, and the crimes they were charged with are unknown. Families have gone from prison to prison, police station to police station, seeking their loved ones, without success, human rights groups say.

The flurry of arbitrary detentions with no transparent judicial process marks a new tactic, human rights groups say, in a yearslong wave of political oppression in Nicaragua. There, Daniel Ortega and Rosario Murillo, who rule as co-presidents, have since 2018 eliminated nearly any vestige of opposition that could threaten



Campaign posters for Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega and his wife, Rosario Murillo, are seen on hospital trucks in 2021 in Masaya. Elected co-presidents in February, they seem to be clearing the political landscape. INTI OCON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

their grip on power.

It shows how, even after arresting and killing hundreds of protesters and sending hundreds more into exile, Nicaragua’s authoritarian government finds novel ways to stifle dissent and sow dread among the populace.

Relatives of the missing fear the worst, after two of the disappeared were recently returned to their families — dead.

On Aug. 25, the body of Mauricio Petri, who had been arrested 38 days earlier with his wife and son as part of a sweep of members of a church targeted by the government, was turned over to his family.

Authorities summoned relatives to a coroner’s office and escorted them to a cemetery to bury Petri with no chance for an autopsy, human rights groups said.

Four days later, the body of Carlos Cárdenas Cepeda, a lawyer for the Catholic

Church, which has also been targeted by the government, was given back to his family. He had been detained for 15 days. No cause of death was given in either case, and the government has made no pronouncements about them.

These deaths have alarmed the families of the other detainees.

Of those 33 missing prisoners, at least a dozen are older than 60 — one is 81 — and several, such as Hurtado, suffer from diabetes and high blood pressure.

The police who showed up without warrants to arrest Hurtado and search his home in Managua suggested five police stations where the family might later find him, Hurtado’s brother Adolfo said.

Hurtado’s wife and his two brothers spent weeks visiting police stations and prisons, where they said they faced bureaucratic runarounds and long waits.

“At first, two brothers and she went once a week, so three times a week, for more or less a month and a half,” Adolfo Hurtado said. “That rhythm was unsustainable for the family.”

Adolfo Hurtado said he believes his brother was targeted because he had publicly released a proposal for national dialogue and elections to address the country’s political crisis.

Nicaragua’s co-presidents, particularly Murillo, seem fixated on clearing the political landscape of any independent voices who could threaten her ability to govern if Ortega, who will turn 80 next month, dies.

Murillo, 74, who also acts as a government spokesperson, did not respond to requests for comment.

Forced disappearances have a long and painful history in Latin America.

The term “desaparecido” became synonymous with political repression between

1976 and 1983 in Argentina, when a military dictatorship abducted as many as 30,000 accused dissidents, tortured them and, in hundreds of cases, threw them from airplanes into the sea.

And throughout Latin America, hundreds of thousands of people who have disappeared since the 1970s were taken to secret detention centers, tortured and executed. Many of their bodies were never found.

While hundreds of people eventually faced trial in Argentina, many cases of the disappeared went unpunished, said María Adela Antokoletz, who heads the Latin American Federation of Associations for Relatives of the Detained-Disappeared.

The practice also occurs in Mexico, El Salvador and Colombia.

Authorities are obligated under international law to inform family members if they are holding someone,

said Barbara Frey, a retired University of Minnesota professor who co-edited a book about disappearances in contemporary Latin America.

“If the state has taken them and won’t tell the families where they are, that’s a disappearance,” Frey said. “That’s exactly what the definition says.”

Reed Brody, a member of the United Nations Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua, said the 33 documented cases in Nicaragua were believed to be an undercount because many families are too afraid to file a complaint with human rights organizations. The families have reported being harassed and threatened with arrest or having their property confiscated if they persist in trying to track down their loved ones, human rights experts said.

The missing include community leaders, teachers, Indigenous leaders, journalists and pastors. In at least five cases, multiple family members were taken.

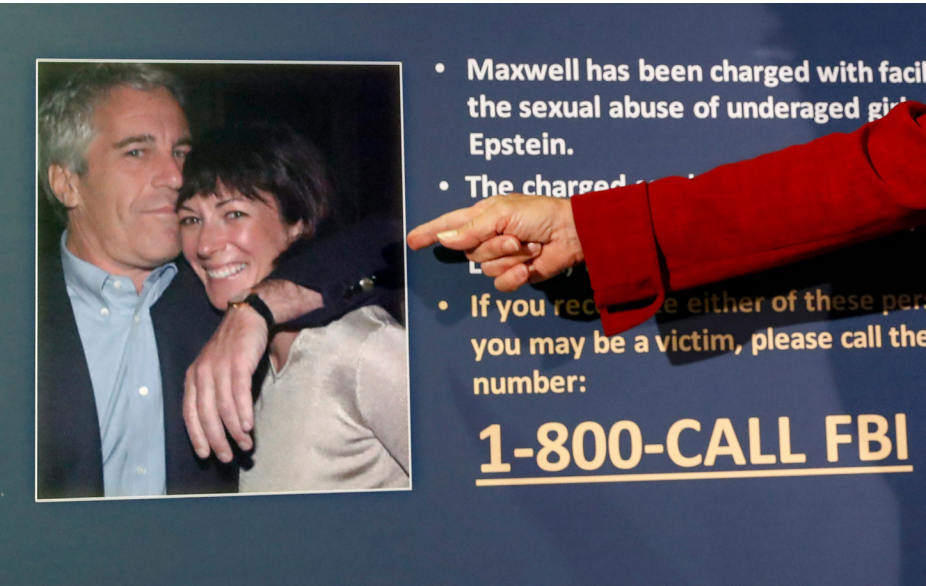
Angelica Chavarríahas was last seen in May 2024, the same day her partner, Daniel Ortega’s brother Humberto, was placed under house arrest, according to human rights organizations. He died last year.

Thelma Brenes said her father, Carlos Brenes Sánchez, 70, and his partner, Salvadora Martínez, 67, were taken Aug. 14 from their home in Jinotepe, about 90 miles north of Managua.

Brenes Sánchez is a retired military colonel and a longtime opponent of Ortega. He was arrested in 2018 when he spoke out against government abuses but was released a year later under an amnesty law.

He had been abiding by the terms of his release, checking in regularly with the police and not leaving the country, when he was arrested without explanation, his daughter said.

“We want proof of life,” she said.



Audrey Strauss, acting U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, announces charges against British socialite Ghislaine Maxwell in New York. JOHN MINCHILLO/AP 2020

Supreme Court declines to hear appeal of Epstein’s ex-girlfriend

By Mark Sherman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court rejected an appeal Monday from Ghislaine Maxwell, the imprisoned former girlfriend of Jeffrey Epstein.

On the first day of their new term, the justices declined to take up a case that would have drawn renewed attention to the sordid sexual-abuse saga after President Donald Trump’s administration sought to tamp down criticism over its refusal to publicly release more investigative files from Epstein’s case.

Lawyers for Maxwell, a British socialite, argued that she never should have been tried or convicted for her role in luring teenage girls to be sexually abused by Epstein, a New York financier. She is serving a 20-year term, although she was moved from a low-security federal prison in Florida to a minimum-security prison camp in Texas after she was interviewed in July by Deputy Attorney General Todd Blanche.

As is their custom, the justices did not explain why they turned away the

appeal.

Trump’s administration had urged the high court to stay out of the case.

Maxwell’s lawyers contended that a nonprosecution agreement reached in 2007 by federal prosecutors in Miami and Epstein’s lawyers also protected his “potential co-conspirators” from federal charges anywhere in the country.

Maxwell was prosecuted in Manhattan, and the federal appeals court there ruled that the prosecution was proper. A jury found her guilty of sex trafficking a teen girl, among other charges.

The trial featured accounts of the sexual exploitation of girls as young as 14 told by four women who described being abused as teens in the 1990s and early 2000s at Epstein’s homes.

Neither Maxwell’s lawyers nor the federal Bureau of Prisons has explained the reason for her transfer, but one of her lawyers, David Oscar Markus, has said she is “innocent and never should have been tried, much less convicted.” Markus also was the lead lawyer on her Supreme Court case.

Maxwell was interviewed by Blanche at a Florida courthouse. She was given limited immunity, allowing her to speak freely without fear of prosecution for anything she said except in the event of a false statement. She repeatedly denied witnessing any sexually inappropriate interactions involving Trump, according to records released in August meant to distance the president from the disgraced financier.

Epstein was arrested in 2019 on sex trafficking charges and was accused of sexually abusing dozens of teenage girls. A month later, he was found dead in a federal cell in New York in what investigators described as a suicide.

The Epstein case had consumed Trump’s administration since an announcement from the FBI and the Justice Department in July that Epstein had killed himself despite conspiracy theories to the contrary; that a “client list” that Attorney General Pam Bondi had indicated was on her desk did not actually exist; and that no additional documents from the high-profile investigation were suitable to be released.

Trio receives Nobel in medicine for immune system discoveries

By Kostya Manenkov, Lauran Neergaard and Lindsey Wasson
Associated Press

STOCKHOLM — Three scientists won the Nobel Prize in medicine Monday for discoveries about how the immune system knows to attack germs and not our own bodies.

The work by Mary Brunckow, Fred Ramsdell and Dr. Shimon Sakaguchi uncovered a key pathway the body uses to keep the immune system in check, called peripheral immune tolerance. Experts called the findings critical to understanding autoimmune diseases, such as Type 1 diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis and lupus.

In separate projects over several years, the scientists — two in the U.S. and one in Japan — identified the importance of what are now called regulatory T cells. Scientists are using those findings in a variety of ways: to discover better treatments for autoimmune diseases, improve organ transplant success and enhance the body’s own fight against cancer, among others.

“Their discoveries have been decisive for our understanding of how the immune system functions and why we do not all develop serious autoimmune diseases,” said Olle Kämpe, chair of the Nobel Committee.

Brunkow, 64, is a senior program manager at the Institute for Systems Biology in Seattle. Ramsdell, 64, is a scientific adviser for San Francisco-based Sonoma Biotherapeutics. Sakaguchi, 74, is a distinguished professor at the Immunology Frontier Research Center at Osaka University in Japan.

The award, officially known as the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, is the first of the 2025 Nobel Prize announcements and was announced by a panel



Osaka University professor Dr. Shimon Sakaguchi receives flowers after winning the Nobel Prize in medicine Monday in Suita, near Osaka, Japan. SHOHEI MIYANO/KYODO NEWS

at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm.

The physics prize will be announced Tuesday, chemistry on Wednesday and literature on Thursday.

The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced Friday and the Nobel Memorial Prize in economics on Oct. 13.

The immune system has overlapping ways to detect and fight bacteria, viruses and other intruders. But sometimes certain immune cells run amok, mistakenly attacking people’s own cells and tissues to cause autoimmune diseases.

Scientists had thought the body regulated this system only in a centralized fashion. Key immune soldiers, such as T cells, get trained to spot bad actors, and those that go awry in a way that might trigger autoimmunity get eliminated in the thymus.

The Nobel winners unraveled an additional way the body keeps the system in check if immune cells later get confused and mistake human cells for intruders, which is what happens when a person has an autoimmune disease.

Sakaguchi said he “was curious about the mechanism of immune response that is supposed to protect oneself but also reacts to and attacks itself.”

His experiments in mice showed that the thymus pathway couldn’t be the only explanation. In 1995,

he discovered a previously unknown T cell subtype, the regulatory T cells, that also could tamp down overreactive immune cells like a biological security guard.

Then in 2001, Brunkow and Ramsdell were working together at a biotech company investigating mice with an autoimmune disease. In painstaking work at a time when mapping genes was an evolving field, they figured out that a particular mutation in a gene called Foxp3 was to blame and realized it could be a major player in human health too.

“From a DNA level, it was a really small alteration that caused this massive change to how the immune system works,” Brunkow said.

The work opened a new field of immunology, said Karolinska Institute rheumatology professor Marie Wahren-Herlenius.

The American Association of Immunologists said the winners’ work “has fundamentally reshaped our understanding of immune balance.”

At a news conference Monday, Sakaguchi called his win “a happy surprise.” Brunkow got the news of her prize from an AP photographer who came to her Seattle home.

Ramsdell couldn’t be reached by the AP or his employer, who thought he might be away on a back-packing trip.

Stonewall museum’s finances crumble

Facility’s president says federal, state funds ‘down 100%’

By Johnny Diaz
The New York Times

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Posters that read “Silence = Death” from the early years of the AIDS epidemic. A pair of sneakers signed by Ellen DeGeneres, who famously announced “Yep, I’m Gay” on the cover of Time. A gavel that repealed the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy.

For more than five decades, the Stonewall National Museum, Archives and Library in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, has chronicled the LGBTQ+ community by collecting and sharing its history.

But the museum, one of the country’s oldest such institutions, is facing a hostile political environment and a financial crisis that may force it to find another home.

The organization has been hampered by recent budget shortfalls that Robert Kesten, its president, attributed to President Donald Trump’s crackdown on diversity programs and anti-LGBTQ+ policies led by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. Corporations have also pulled back on sponsorships for national LGBTQ+ groups like the Stonewall museum, which began as a small collection in 1973.

Named for the 1969 uprising in New York City, when a police raid at a Greenwich Village gay bar called the Stonewall Inn set off the modern gay rights movement, the 4,500-square-foot space houses a collection of more than 30,000 books (including some banned at certain public schools) along with DVDs, historical documents and artifacts that reflect the ongoing fight for equality.

Organization officials say they are doing their best to keep the institution’s doors



Robert Kesten shows a gold record awarded to the Village People for “Macho Man” on Sept. 8 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. MELODY TIMOTHEE/THE NEW YORK TIMES

open to preserve the repository for future generations, but it has been challenging.

“In federal and state funds, we are down 100%,” Kesten said about the cuts to its \$1 million annual budget.

Among the funding that has been cut off, he said, are grants of \$10,000 to \$25,000 that the organization received annually from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the federal Education Department; a \$50,000 grant from the Florida Department of State’s Division of Arts and Culture; and annual grants of \$25,000 to \$50,000 from Florida Humanities, a nonprofit state affiliate of the NEH.

In addition, Kesten estimated that \$100,000 in corporate sponsorship funding has dried up.

“What has been worse for us is the demand of corpora-

tions to eliminate their DEI efforts,” Kesten said, referring to diversity, equity and inclusion programs. “We received multiple awards from various corporations. A few were considering, or had agreed, to join our board. Those contacts no longer return calls or texts. They no longer sponsor events. They have backed off joining the board.”

The National Endowment for the Arts, which has been withdrawing grants to arts groups nationwide this year, said in a recent update to its grant guidelines that was shared with Stonewall that “funding priority” would be given to projects that “celebrate and honor the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.”

The White House and the governor’s office did not comment on the museum’s

funding shortfalls.

The history of the LGBTQ+ rights movement is one of immense challenges, and museum officials said they might have the best resources to guide their survival: their own archives.

“Based on our archives and library, we have blueprints on how to fight back, and to survive with less, and how to keep our community alive and rebuild as we have for generations,” Kesten said.

Donations from individuals, including from the estates of deceased supporters, have helped Stonewall offset some of the losses. “With our cautious spending, we are holding our own but cautious not to take on more than we can,” Kesten said, adding that he hasn’t filled three vacancies.

Its archives also has popular items.

Stonewall is home to a framed gold record issued to the disco group Village People for selling more than 500,000 copies of their 1978 album “Macho Man.” The group was named for characters in gay clubs in Manhattan’s West Village.

Randy Jones, the group’s cowboy, donated the gold record to Stonewall in 2015.

And the gavel that Rep. Nancy Pelosi used when she was the House speaker is there.

It was used when the chamber voted in 2010 to repeal the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, which prohibited gays and lesbians from openly serving in the U.S. military.

Enacted by President Bill Clinton in 1993, the policy allowed gays to serve in the military as long as they kept their sexuality a secret.

The gavel was donated to

the archive by former Rep. Barney Frank of Massachusetts, a longtime supporter of the LGBTQ+ community.

Also, a red-white-and-blue Bosworth racket signed by one of the most dominant players in tennis history is part of the collection at Stonewall and will be featured in an upcoming display of sports memorabilia from the museum’s collection, Kesten said.

Martina Navratilova, a Czech American who played her first Wimbledon as a 16-year-old in 1973, won 18 Grand Slam singles championships. The archive also has her jacket from a Virginia Slims tournament and a signed ball.

Fans of “The Real Housewives of Miami” may have seen Navratilova, 68, on the Bravo reality TV series because her wife, Julia Lemigova, is a cast member.

NEWS BRIEFING

DOJ counters DeSantis claims about detainees at ‘Alligator Alcatraz’

From news services

ORLANDO, Fla. — U.S. government lawyers say detainees at the immigration detention center in the Florida Everglades known as “Alligator Alcatraz” likely include people who have never been in removal proceedings, which is a direct contradiction to what Gov. Ron DeSantis has been saying since it opened in July.

Attorneys for the Justice Department made that admission Thursday in a court filing arguing that the detainees don’t have enough in common to be certified as a class in a lawsuit over whether they’re getting proper access to attorneys.

A removal proceeding is a legal process initiated by the Department of Homeland Security to determine if someone should be deported from the United States.

The DOJ attorneys wrote that the detainees at the Everglades facility have too many different immigration statuses to be considered a class.

“The proposed class includes all detainees at Alligator Alcatraz, a facility that houses detainees in all stages of immigration processing — presumably including those who have never been in removal proceedings, those who will be placed into removal proceedings, those who are already subject to final orders of removal, those subject to expedited removal, and those detained for the purpose of facilitation removal from the United States pursuant to a final order of removal,” they wrote.

Since the facility opened, DeSantis has been saying publicly that each detainee has gone through the process of determining that they can’t legally be in the United States.

“They’ve all already been given a final order of removal. So, if you have an order to be removed, what is the possible objection to the federal government enforcing that removal order?” he said July 29 before a conference of the Florida Sheriffs Association.

DeSantis’ press office didn’t respond Monday to an email seeking comment.

The court filing by the DOJ attorneys was made in a lawsuit in which civil rights groups allege that the facility’s detainees have been denied proper access to attorneys in violation of their constitutional rights.

The case is one of three lawsuits filed by environmental and civil rights groups over the detention center, which was hastily built this summer by the state of Florida and operated by private contractors and state agencies.

Tariff talk: Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva asked President Donald Trump during a phone conversation Monday to lift the 40% tariff imposed by the U.S. government on Brazilian imports.

The leaders spoke for 30 minutes, exchanged phone numbers, and Lula reiterated his invitation for Trump to attend the upcoming climate summit in Belem, according to a statement from Lula’s office.

Later, Trump posted on Truth Social that he had a good conversation with Lula. “We discussed many things, but it was mostly focused on the Economy, and Trade, between our two Countries.”

A 40% tariff was imposed on Brazilian products in July on top of a 10% tariff imposed earlier. The administration justified the tariffs saying that Brazil’s policies and criminal prosecution of former President Jair



Activists deported: Swedish climate campaigner Greta Thunberg arrives Monday at Athens International Airport in Greece alongside other activists who took part in a Gaza-bound aid flotilla. Israel said it deported an additional 171 people from 19 countries for taking part in the 45-vessel mission to get food and other aid to Palestinians. ARIS MESSINIS/GETTY-AFP

Bolsonaro constitute an economic emergency.

CEO for IRS: Social Security Administration Commissioner Frank Bisignano was named to the newly created position of CEO of the IRS on Monday, making him the latest member of the Trump administration to be put in charge of multiple federal agencies.

As IRS CEO, Bisignano will report to Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, who serves as acting commissioner of the IRS. It is unclear whether Bisignano’s role at the IRS will require Senate confirmation.

The Treasury Department said Bisignano will be responsible for overseeing all day-to-day IRS operations while serving as commissioner of the Social Security Administration.

Bessent said the IRS and SSA “share many of the same technological and customer service goals. This makes Mr. Bisignano a natural choice for this role.”

IRS and Social Security advocates expressed concern about the new appointment.

Ukraine-Russia war: Long-range Ukrainian drones and missiles hit a major Russian ammunition plant, a key oil terminal and an important weapons depot behind the front line, Ukraine’s president and military said Monday, as Kyiv cranked up pressure on Moscow’s military logistics.

The Sverdlov ammunition plant in the Nizhny Novgorod region of western Russia was struck overnight, causing multiple explosions and a fire, the Ukrainian General Staff said. The plant supplies aviation and artillery ordnance, aviation bombs, and anti-aircraft and anti-tank munitions to Russian forces.

Ukraine also hit an oil terminal on the Russia-annexed Crimean Peninsula, starting a blaze, and an ammunition depot of Russia’s 18th Combined Arms Army, the General

Staff said.

Russian authorities acknowledged a major Ukrainian drone attack over 14 regions, as well as Crimea and around the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. But they gave few details beyond saying air defenses shot down 251 Ukrainian drones — making it one of the biggest Ukrainian barrages of Russian territory since the war began on Feb. 24, 2022.

Gleb Nikitin, the governor of the Nizhny Novgorod region, said air defenses fended off an attack by 20 Ukrainian drones on a local industrial zone that includes the ammo plant and that no facilities were damaged.

Ukraine’s long-range attacks on refineries and other oil facilities contributed to Russian fuel shortages at the pump in August.

French Prime Minister quits: French Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu resigned Monday after less than a month in office and less than 24 hours after naming a new government that prompted

a key coalition ally to withdraw support.

The move deepened the country’s political crisis and left President Emmanuel Macron with few options.

The presidency said Macron, who has been hitting record lows in opinion polls, accepted the resignation.

Lecornu had replaced his predecessor, François Bayrou, on Sept. 9 to become France’s fourth prime minister in barely a year during a prolonged period of political instability. Lecornu is now the shortest-serving prime minister in the history of the Fifth Republic, which started in 1958.

French politics have been in disarray since Macron called an early legislative election last year that produced a deeply fragmented National Assembly. Far-right and left-wing lawmakers hold more than 320 seats in the lower house, while the centrists and allied conservatives hold 210, with no party having an overall majority.

ARTS & LIVING



Above: Large-scale nicho boxes by Yollocalli Arts Reach students are displayed as part of the exhibit at the National Museum of Mexican Art. **Below:** Figures by Los Ramírez Castañeda in a display called “El pueblo regresa a protestar en La Villita (The community returns to protest in Little Village)”. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

Exhibition opens to crowds despite immigration crackdowns

Amid tensions in Pilsen, National Museum of Mexican Art holds annual ‘Día de Muertos’

By Cam’ron Hardy
Chicago Tribune

With tensions high in the Pilsen neighborhood amid immigration crack-downs, art is offering a way for community members to unite and celebrate Mexican culture.

The National Museum of Mexican Art opened its 39th annual exhibition of “Día de Muertos: A Celebration of Remembrance” on Sept. 19. Rooted deep in Mexican heritage, the Day of the Dead (observed Nov. 1-2) honors loved ones who have passed away. There are many beliefs about what happens when someone dies, and different artists captured their own ideologies

in their artwork. Attendance was scarce at the annual Pilsen Mexican Independence Day parade last month and Elisa Soto Sánchez, the museum’s curatorial and exhibitions associate, was expecting the same at the new show, but hasn’t seen much of a difference. On opening night, the museum was crowded, Sánchez said, as about 700 people attended the exhibit. Museum visitors’ introduction to “Día De Muertos” is a

Turn to Museum, Page 8



Lead singer Geddy Lee performs in 2002 at what was then the Tweeter Center in Tinley Park. **ERIK UNGER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

Rush announces 2026 tour with stop in Chicago

By Doug George
Chicago Tribune

Rush has announced a tour that will bring it to Chicago for two nights next summer in honor of the band’s 50th anniversary. The “Fifty Something Tour,” announced Monday, is slated to visit just seven cities in North America, opening in Los Angeles on June 7 and coming to Chicago’s United Center July 16 and 18, 2026. Tickets for the tour, presented by Live Nation, go on sale to the public on Oct. 17 at rush.com; signup for an artist pre-sale on Oct. 13 is open now via Ticketmaster. There also will be a Citi card presale open on Oct. 10. This will be the first tour for Rush co-found-

ers Geddy Lee and Alex Lifeson since their “R40 Tour” wrapped up in Los Angeles in Aug. 2015. Most stops will be two nights with a different set list each night, according to the announcement, with songs “including their greatest hits and fan favorites.” The tour is also in honor of the late drummer and lyricist Neil Peart, the prog-rock band’s third founding member who died in 2020. Lee came to Chicago’s Auditorium Theatre in 2023 on a book tour. Rush formed in Toronto in 1968 and was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall in 2013. It has released 19 studio albums; its second, “Fly by Night” in 1975, brought the band a wider audience.

June 7: Los Angeles at Kia Forum
June 9: Los Angeles at Kia Forum
June 18: Mexico City at Palacio de los Deportes
June 24: Fort Worth, Texas, at Dickies Arena
June 26: Fort Worth, Texas, at Dickies Arena
July 16: Chicago at United Center
July 18: Chicago at United Center
July 28: New York at Madison Square Garden
July 30: New York at Madison Square Garden
Aug. 7: Toronto at Scotiabank Arena
Aug. 9: Toronto at Scotiabank Arena
Sept. 17: Cleveland at Rocket Arena

dgeorge@chicagotribune.com

The Goodman Theatre is hosting a costume sale

By Doug George
Chicago Tribune

If your taste in Halloween costumes runs a little theatrical, has the Goodman Theatre got a sales event for you. The theater has delved into its backstage vaults and is hosting a costume sale on Oct. 11, offering up clothing items, props, jewelry, wigs, footwear and other supplies and accessories from productions on its stages spanning some 60 years. That includes such gems as Crumpet’s Elf costume from “The Santa-land Diaries,” starring Matt Crowle in 2018, and a beaded, corseted red showgirl dress worn by Rachel York in “Turn of the Century” in the musical’s 2008 world premiere, directed by Tommy Tune. According to an announcement from the theater, there will be dozens of items in all — some perhaps more valuable as pieces of Chicago theater history than an outfit for your Halloween party. ■ A child’s pumpkin costume, an American flag dress and a corn dress (all with matching accessories) from “The Music Man” (2019). ■ Prince Tamino, Papagena and Papageno costumes, plus the black-and-red gown



Rachel York wearing the showgirl dress in the musical “Turn of the Century.” **GOODMAN THEATRE**

worn by Emily Rohm, from “The Matchbox Magic Flute” (2024). ■ Two floor-length gowns from “The Little Foxes” (2015). ■ The striped suit from “An Italian Straw Hat” (1964). ■ A puppet prop from “The Light in the Piazza” (2004). ■ Tiny Tim’s jacket from last winter’s production of “A Christmas Carol” (2024), as well as items from earlier productions. ■ Pieces from “A Little Night Music” (1994), “A Winter’s Tale” (2019), “The Notebooks of Leonardo DaVinci” (2022) and “The Penelopiad” (2024). According to the Goodman, many of the items

were designed by costume designer Ana Kuzmanic; the last time the theater put on a costume sale like this was in 2018. Prices will range from 50 cents to \$300, with only credit and debit cards accepted, all sales are final and customers are asked to bring their own shopping bags. Funds raised from the sale support the theater. This fall season marks the theater’s 100th anniversary. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 11 (doors open at 9:30 a.m.) at the Goodman Theatre, 170 N. Dearborn St.; admission is free, more information at goodmantheatre.org/costumesale



Bad Bunny performs his monologue Saturday on “Saturday Night Live” in New York. **NBC**

CELEBRITIES

On ‘SNL,’ Bad Bunny takes on critics

From news services

Bad Bunny kicked off the 51st season of “Saturday Night Live” with a few timely jokes about his next high-profile gig: the Super Bowl.

“I think everybody is happy about it — even Fox News,” the music superstar quipped in his monologue Saturday, referring to opposition in some quarters to his being named headliner of the Super Bowl halftime show.

He segued into a few sentences in Spanish, expressing Latino pride and joy over the achievement, after which he noted: “If you didn’t understand what I just said, you have four months to learn!” Bad Bunny will make history by performing the Super Bowl halftime show entirely in Spanish, a landmark moment for Latino culture.

In his second “SNL” hosting gig, Bad Bunny was joined by musical guest Doja Cat, making her debut in that role.

The rapper was featured in many of the show’s comedy segments, including a spinoff of the popular sketches in which George Washington attempts to educate soldiers about his new country’s language

and customs. Here, Bad Bunny played a Spanish ruler in 900 A.D. explaining how the language would have both masculine and feminine nouns — with Benicio Del Toro making a surprise appearance.

Actor Gregory dies: Kimberly Hébert Gregory, who was best known as the brash principal in HBO’s “Vice Principals,” died Oct. 3. She was 52.

A cause of death was not immediately reported. Her former husband, Chester Gregory, confirmed her death in an Instagram post.

Walton Goggins, who co-starred with Gregory in “Vice Principals,” was among the several performers who paid tribute to her on social media.

“We lost one of the best yesterday ... one of the best I’ve ever worked with,” Goggins wrote in his Instagram post. “I had the honor ... the good fortune of getting to know, getting to spend months working with this Queen on Vice Principals.”

On “Vice Principals,” Gregory played Dr. Belinda Brown, who butted heads with rival high school vice principals. She also appeared on the TV shows “The Chi” and “All Rise.”

Swift film tops box office: The weekend box office belonged to two undeniable draws: Taylor Swift and Dwayne Johnson.

It might have looked like a heavyweight matchup, but Swift’s devoted fan base once again proved unstoppable with her film “The Official Release Party of a Show Girl,” which debuted at No. 1 with \$33 million in North America, according to Sunday estimates. The film packed music videos, behind-the-scenes footage and lyric visuals into an 89-minute experience.

Johnson saw a more modest showing. His A24 drama “The Smashing Machine,” co-starring Emily Blunt, opened in third with \$6 million, trailing Paul Thomas Anderson’s “One Battle After Another,” which earned \$11.1 million.

Oct. 7 birthdays: TV personality Joy Behar is 83. Musician John Mellencamp is 74. Drummer Tico Torres is 72. Cellist Yo-Yo Ma is 70. Singer Michael W. Smith is 68. Singer Toni Braxton is 58. Singer Thom Yorke is 57. Actor Nicole Ari Parker is 55. Actors Aaron and Shawn Ashmore are 46. Actor Holland Roden is 39.

After death of brother, sister seeks mementos from in-law



R. Eric Thomas
Asking Eric

Dear Eric: When my brother passed away many years ago, my sister-in-law kept the family photo album that belonged to him.

The family photos in my sister-in-law’s possession include many from my childhood and our larger family, as well as a few of her husband, my brother. I understand that these albums hold great sentimental value for her, and I appreciate the connection she must feel to these memories. What I struggle with is that, while all my brothers and sisters have their own photo albums, I do not. After our parents passed away, my brother was able to take what he wanted from the house, but I did not have that opportunity, so I have no family album of my own.

Do you have any advice on how I might approach my sister-in-law about possibly sharing copies of some of the photos, so that I too can have some of these memories to hold on to?

— *Picture’s Worth*

Dear Picture: It’s absolutely fine to just ask her directly if you can have copies of the photos of your family. Something like, “The family photo album you have contains some photos I’d really love to have, as well. Can I come over and make some copies?”

You may want to go a step further by thinking through the logistics, so that she doesn’t feel burdened by the ask (not that the ask is a burden; it’s perfectly reasonable).

But it will make the whole thing easier if you decide in advance whether you’re planning to take photos of the photos, to bring a scanner and scan them, or borrow them and get them professionally scanned and reprinted. All are good options.

Giving her a full picture of what you’re asking will help, i.e., “I’d need to come over and take a look at the photos, then borrow them for an afternoon and return them. I can also send you digital copies, if you want.”

Dear Eric: My partner and I have been in a committed relationship for four and a half years and have a large, blended family of adult, middle-age kids. We were both divorced following long marriages a long time before starting our relationship.

His two daughters have never been warm to me and tend to ignore me. His three stepkids from his previous relationship, on the other hand, are accepting of me and happy to be around me. All his kids are very close.

This past Mother’s Day I mentioned to my partner that I wished I could “crack the code” with his daughters. His response was, it’s as good as it’s going to get because of their past traumas with their own mother and stepmother (the stepkids’ mom), and it’s just not going to ever change.

He flies to his daughter’s home out of state three times a year, including Christmas, and there’s no room for me to stay. It’s pretty much an inviolate rule of his daughter’s that he comes there for the holiday.

He willingly pays for me to fly to see my kids for the holidays, and I’m grateful, but the point is, I’d like to spend Christmas with him.

Just once, I’d love him to stay here with me.

I told him that I have no desire to fly out of state to see his daughter and family if I’m not going to be treated as his partner and I’m made to feel like a third wheel. This doesn’t seem to bother my partner.

Can you give me a bit of clarity that I’m missing?

— *Blended and Shaken*

Dear Blended: A couple threads here. First, the visits: I can see why you wouldn’t want to spend the holidays with people who ignore you (bah humbug to that), but I don’t think it’s a fair compromise to ask him to skip holidays altogether. Might it be in everyone’s best interest for him to have a talk with his daughters about being more hospitable to you? And maybe the two of you stay at a local hotel instead of their home?

He can assert his needs in his relationship with his daughters. They don’t have to embrace you, but they need to find a better way to treat you, out of love and respect for him at the very least.

Which leads to the second thread: the relationship with the daughters. While it’s fair to expect him to talk with his daughters about their disrespect, it’s also important that you hear him when he tells you that there may be too much baggage from previous relationships for them to have the kind of connection with you that you seek. There may be no code to crack here.

Accepting that and readjusting your expectations may be the best path forward.

Send questions to
eric@askingeric.com.

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Museum

from Page 7

colorful Tímulo, a wooden structure usually seen in churches during funerals.

A piece by the Ramírez Casteñada family displayed historical Mexican skeleton figures from Chicago protesting in Little Village with signs written in Spanish.

The creators — Miriam and Martín, and their daughter Regina — are based in Mexico and were commissioned by the museum to make the piece. Museum workers provided the family with information for the figures depicted in the display.

The objective was to create something that memorialized the dead, Regina Ramírez Casteñada said, and after meeting with some of the museum staff members, they all came to the conclusion that the piece should be about a protest.

“We were very into it because we share that feeling of fight and resistance of our Latin brothers and sisters on the other side of the border,” Miriam Ramírez Casteñada said in Spanish as her daughter translated during an interview with the Tribune. “We feel identified with them, we see the news and that was our little grain of sand in that feeling of resistance.

“It’s important not to keep quiet before injustice,” Miriam Ramírez Casteñada said. “We should not be afraid to express what makes us feel bad.”

Martín Ramírez Casteñada said he and his family hear about the situation from their relatives in the U.S. who are being impacted. For him, it was important to give something back.

Making the piece to celebrate the holiday was meaningful, the family said. The celebration of life is one of the most important traditions for Mexicans, and Miriam Ramírez Casteñada said she feels it on a spiritual level.

Museumgoer Lisa Odom, 61, said the Ramírez Casteñada family’s art is



Crystal Arellano’s ofrenda to our roots is displayed in “Día de Muertos: A Celebration of Remembrance” exhibit.”



An ofrenda by Thomas Kelly High School students called “Alive in our Memory” about mental health. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS**

“very essential to what’s going on now.”

Odom, a retired military officer, said she is enraged by what’s happening around the country.

“To see what I spent 30

years of my life in service to be destroyed, it’s upsetting beyond belief to watch this systematic racism (and) the destruction of democracy,” Odom said.

Art comes as an outlet

for expression when trying to get out emotions, Odom said. “Whenever we don’t have a voice, you can always turn to art,” she said.

Daniela Portales, another museumgoer, said the

Ramírez Casteñada family piece “hit close to home.”

“My mom, she’s an immigrant; she’s at home,” Portales said. “She doesn’t want to go out, so it’s heart-breaking”

It was the first time the exhibit artists went to an unveiling.

“Considering everything that’s going on, it was great to see all these people come in,” Sánchez said.

The Day of the Dead is celebrated in many parts of the world, most notably in Mexico and Central America.

Although death can be a taboo topic, Sánchez said the staff at the museum took a different approach when setting up the installation, dedicating one of its exhibit rooms to humorous art.

Vibrant pieces of Cartonería, or paper-mache, created by Ricardo Linares García, feature skeletons engaged in exag-

gerated activities, such as taking down a big blue monster, cooking stew or fighting the devil while climbing trees.

Other pieces around the museum feature artists’ loved ones and memorabilia. Many pieces contain skeletons that represent the mix of life and death.

As guests leave the exhibit, Sanches said, they are met with the sight of a family gathered at a cemetery at night, spending time with their loved ones.

The National Museum of Mexican Art will host a Día De Muertos Xicágo event from 3 to 8 p.m. on Oct. 25. The exhibit “Día De Muertos: A Celebration of Remembrance” runs until Dec. 14 at the museum, 1852 W. 19th St.; hours 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday; free, more at nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org.

What to watch TUESDAY

October 7, 2025

All times Central. Start times can vary based on cable/satellite provider. Confirm times on your on-screen guide.

NHL Hockey

ESPN, beginning at 4 p.m. Live

Opening night of the NHL regular season has the Chicago Blackhawks at the two-time defending Stanley Cup champion Florida Panthers, the Pittsburgh Penguins at the N.Y. Rangers and the Colorado Avalanche at the L.A. Kings.

Murder in a Small Town

FOX, 7 p.m.

A protective father becomes a top suspect in a murder investigation when his ex-wife is killed just after returning to town. In one of his final roles, Malcolm-Jamal Warner guest-stars in the new episode “Mother Love.”

100 Day Dream Home

HGTV, 7 p.m.

In the new episode “Risky Situation,” after traveling the world for the military, a couple have agreed to settle down in Tampa, Florida. While they’re united on location, they’re divided on design, so Mika Kleinschmidt takes a big risk to try to satisfy everyone, but her husband Brian worries it may backfire.

Alien: Earth

Hulu

A mysterious space vessel crash lands on Earth in this prequel to the legendary sci-fi film. Created by Noah Hawley (*Fargo*, *Legion*), *Alien: Earth* is the first TV series in the franchise’s 45+ year history, with all 8 episodes of the first season now streaming on FX, Hulu, and Hulu on Disney+.

Doc

FOX, 8 p.m.

A patient forces Amy (Molly Parker) to confront the realities of medical tourism in the new episode “New Blood.”

‘On Brand With Jimmy Fallon’



KWAKU ALSTON, NBC

Top Guns: The Next Generation

Nat Geo, 8 p.m.

Navy and Marine Corps student pilots continue their training in the new episode “Fight’s On!” Defensive dogfighting proves the toughest test yet, as the students must avoid being shot down by their battle-hardened instructors.

Haunted Hospitals

Travel Channel, 8 p.m.

In the new episode “Her Last Breath, The Graveyard Shift, The Apparition,” two chill-

ing stories will leave you with goose bumps: A nurse aide is shocked to find that the aggrieved spirit of a palliative patient still inhabits her room, and a teenager witnesses the alarming apparition of a child.

On Brand With Jimmy Fallon

NBC, 9 p.m.

In “Fashion Capital Takeover,” a new episode of the reality competition series, contestants go to work finding new ideas that showcase how customers can always find “The Good Stuff” in Marshalls stores.

CATCH A CLASSIC

Tootsie

TCM, 7 p.m.

Dustin Hoffman took months to perfect his famous “Dorothy” voice in director Sydney Pollack’s classic gender-bending comedy filled with a lot of heart. “I had to become a woman that I would want to talk to,” Hoffman had said. As a struggling actor, Michael Dorsey (Hoffman) disguises himself as a woman named Dorothy Michaels to land a role on a popular soap and ends up becoming a feminist icon by accident.



COLUMBIA PICTURES

Hoffman walks a tightrope between farce and sincerity, playing the role with just enough restraint to make Dorothy feel real, not ridiculous. Jessica Lange plays Dorothy’s costar and Michael’s love interest, which earned her an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress.

MOVIES YOU’LL LOVE



WARNER BROS.

Pet Sematary (1989, Horror) Dale Midkiff, Fred Gwynne **AMC, 5 p.m.**

The Neighbor in the Window (2020, Suspense) Jamie-Lynn Sigler, Jenn Lyon **LMN, 5 p.m.**

House of Wax (2005, Horror) Elisha Cuthbert, Chad Michael Murray **BBC America, 5:15 p.m.**

A Quiet Place: Day One (2024, Horror) Lupita Nyong’o, Joseph Quinn **MGM, 7 p.m.**

Sweet Autumn (2020, Romance) Nikki Deloach, Andrew Walker **Hallmark, 7 p.m.**

Violent Night (2022, Action) David Harbour, John Leguizamo **SYFY, 7 p.m.**

Wonka (2023, Family) Timothée Chalamet, Calah Lane **TNT, 7 p.m.**

Hocus Pocus 2 (2022, Family) Bette Midler, Sarah Jessica Parker **Freeform, 7:35 p.m.**

I Know What You Did Last Summer (1997, Horror) Jennifer Love Hewitt, Sarah Michelle Gellar **BBC America, 7:45 p.m.**

The Butler (2013, Historical drama) Forest Whitaker, Oprah Winfrey **Starz, 8 p.m.**

Tremors (1990, Horror) Kevin Bacon, Fred Ward **AMC, 9 p.m.**

Halloween Ends (2022, Horror) Jamie Lee Curtis, Andi Matichak **SYFY, 9:30 p.m.**

The Departed (2006, Crime drama) Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon **Paramount, 10 p.m.**

From the editors of TV Weekly and tvinsider.com





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MOVIES
24/7 GRIDS
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Tom Hardy as fixer Harry and Joanne Froggatt as his wife, Jan, star in “MobLand.” **PARAMOUNT+**

TV Q&A

Will ‘MobLand’ families reunite?

By Rich Heldenfels
Tribune News Service

Q: Will there be a second season of “MobLand”?
A: The crime drama featuring Tom Hardy, Pierce Brosnan and Helen Mirren was renewed for Season 2 in June. Paramount+ said the series had drawn 26 million viewers within its first few months on the air, making it the second most-watched original series for the streaming service, behind “Landman.”

Q: Is AI being considered to re-create missing silent movie frames, or entire scenes and movies from scripts?
A: As a report from the Pulitzer Center said not long ago, AI is being used not only for restoring silent films but also repairing decay and damage such as that from the Los Angeles wildfires.
The DRS Nova MTai FrameGen software, which won an Emmy, “uses generative artificial intelligence to reconstruct missing frames in damaged film reels,” the report said. “It stands at the forefront of film restoration and is in the center of ongoing debates in the film industry about how, when, and

whether AI should be used to preserve cinematic classics. ... In the film restoration community, some worry that AI tools may overcorrect, removing the subtle detail and emotional depth that give the original material its character.”
One example of the caution about AI is an acclaimed new reconstruction of Erich von Stroheim’s unfinished 1929 film “Queen Kelly,” with Gloria Swanson. Dennis Doros of Milestone Films, the man behind this 2025 version, said he did not use AI in re-creating scenes or replacing damaged frames. “Just don’t believe in it,” he told me. AI was used, as is common, to find dust and scratches in the film used to prepare this and “to remove a lot of the dust, BUT every frame is seen by the lab technician (Ian Bostick in our case) to make sure nothing else is removed,” Doros said.

Q: When will the “Mile 22” sequel be released?
A: For those of you tuning in late, “Mile 22” is a 2018 action movie starring Mark Wahlberg as a tough CIA operative and directed by Peter Berg. The movie was thought to be the setup for an action

franchise and talk about a sequel began even before it was released. But reviews were bad (23% on Rotten Tomatoes) and the box-office returns unimpressive, so the sequel talk died down. While the talk rose up again when the movie proved popular on Netflix, prompting at least one fan-based sequel trailer on social media, I’ve seen nothing official about a second movie.

Q: My friends who are big fans of “The White Lotus” are trying to predict where Season 4 will take place. Guesses include Australia, the French Riviera or Monaco. Any ideas?
A: News coming out of the recent Emmy Awards named the location as the south of France. Season 3 stars Parkey Posey and Jason Isaacs both spilled that information, according to published reports. Previous seasons have been in Hawaii, Sicily and Thailand.

Do you have a question or comment about entertainment past, present and future? Write to Rich Heldenfels, P.O. Box 417, Mogadore, OH 44260, or brenfels@gmail.com. Letters may be edited.

Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21						22			
23							24				25			
		26			27	28		29						
30	31				32			33			34		35	36
38						39			40	41			42	
43			44	45			46				47		48	
			49		50	51		52			53			
54	55	56					57				58		59	60
61							62			63	64			
65							66					67		
68							69					70		
71							72					73		

By Stella Zawistowski. © 2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. 10/7/25

ACROSS

- 1 Had on
- 5 Sailor’s “Stop!”
- 10 Expensively furnished
- 14 “Excuse me...”
- 15 Seat in a gym
- 16 Feeling sore
- 17 Use a keyboard
- 18 Ankle-___ (little kid)
- 19 Type of tide
- 20 October birthstone
- 22 Have the nerve
- 23 Sudden rise
- 24 Added spices to
- 26 Juicy fruits
- 29 Mix with a spoon
- 30 Wine and dine
- 32 Brooklyn NBA team
- 34 Fully filled
- 38 Promotional spots
- 39 Meet in battle
- 42 Need to repay
- 43 “Bye!”: 2 wds.
- 46 Whole pizzas
- 48 “A Few Good ___” (1992 film)
- 49 Creative fields
- 52 Wuhan’s country
- 54 Parts of trees
- 58 Seated yoga pose
- 61 General or admiral
- 62 Story’s villain
- 65 Boundary
- 66 Thomas of “That Girl”
- 67 Run away
- 68 Judicious
- 69 Piano practice piece
- 70 Graduate, for short
- 71 Takes a chair
- 72 Pre-finals round
- 73 Blouses and tees

DOWN

- 1 Lightbulb units
- 2 “Silly goose!”: 2 wds.
- 3 Find another use for
- 4 Come to light
- 5 “Dancing Queen” group
- 6 Bride’s face covering
- 7 Pros’ opponents
- 8 Sections of movies
- 9 Ultimatum
- 10 Spotify competitor
- 11 Surfer’s location
- 12 Unit of stock
- 13 Heavily promoted
- 21 Unkind

Solutions

S	D	O	I	S	S	I	W	E	S		S	I	S
W	N	T	V		E	D	N	L	E		E	S	I
E	T	I		O	T	R	V	W		E	D	E	
L	S	I	N	O	G	V	L	N	V		X	N	V
S	N	L	O	T		S	E	H	C	N	V	R	B
		V	N	I	H	C		S	L	R	V		
N	E	W		S	E	I	D		V	A	E	E	S
E	M	O			H	S	V	T	C		S	D	V
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D	E	N	O	S	V	E	S		E	G	R	N	S
E	R	V	D		E	N	I	T	V	W	R	N	O
d	v	e	n		r	e	l	i	e		e	d	a
h	c	v		h	c	n	e	b		w	e	h	v
h	s	o	d		l	s	v	a	v		e	r	o

- 25 Sibling’s nickname
- 27 ___ room
- 28 The Cardinals’ city: Abbr.
- 30 Used to be
- 31 Praiseful poem
- 33 Drain energy from
- 35 Salsa verde ingredient
- 36 She-sheep
- 37 Bear’s home
- 40 “Not my mistake”
- 41 Chuckling sound
- 44 Aaron Judge’s team
- 45 ___ de Triomphe
- 47 Grain storage site
- 50 London’s river
- 51 DC lawmaking body
- 53 Like skim milk
- 54 Makes tea
- 55 Diameter halves
- 56 Deep unease
- 57 Play, as a guitar
- 59 Deplete: 2 wds.
- 60 Flower stalks
- 63 Discount supermarket chain
- 64 Departs

1048

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

O P E N S P A C E S D D Q S L I Y E
 U U J C X G Z Z G F Y O R Q P P N S
 N P Q G J E W N H B I E G E B O X J
 H P T T U S I T Q X G R X S L A E C
 E E A D Q Y P M V N Z A E A K H T S
 I T G T L S P I A V W L G S I X T S
 G S Z F E I L R D N D N V M Z S S B
 H I J S S C T E K E I B Y Q O W N E
 T D D N D S H R E E R B Z H K G I A
 S R A A R A I N B P Q S G Q G T U R
 J I R K D O C T O R S J W F V V F D
 S V K E B I R D S L H P X M Z U K S
 L I N S E C T S P V O T H U N D E R
 Z N E K Q G E R M S R G C L O W N S
 U G S Y S L X A R E S M Y H O A O D
 E K S U N T I D I N E S S T Z X X Q
 W F U J X E J A G T S T B L O O D T
 S D E N T I S T S Q Q A B H A I R B

BATS	DRIVING	OPEN SPACES
BEARDS	FIRE	PUPPETS
BEING ALONE	FLYING	RAIN
BIRDS	GERMS	SLEEP
BLOOD	GHOSTS	SNAKES
CLOWNS	HAIR	SPIDERS
DARKNESS	HEIGHTS	STRANGERS
DENTISTS	HORSES	TECHNOLOGY
DOCTORS	INSECTS	THUNDER
DOGS	NEEDLES	UNTIDINESS

BOGGLE



B	U	P
H	O	I
W	L	S
G	K	E
A	S	M

Brain Busters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

M	U	I	T
T	R	N	D
D	A	O	N
Y	L	E	S

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE	YOUR BOGGLE RATING
③ letters = 1 point	151+ = Champ
④ letters = 2 points	101-150 = Expert
⑤ letters = 3 points	61-100 = Pro
⑥ letters = 4 points	31- 60 = Gamer
⑦ letters = 6 points	21- 30 = Rookie
⑧ letters = 10 points	11- 20 = Amateur
⑨+ letters = 15 points	0- 10 = Try again

Boggle Brain-Busters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST FIVE CHEMICAL ELEMENTS in the grid of letters.

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www.bogglebrainbusters.com

WordWheel

Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

SENINHEH

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1	2	3	4	5					6	7	8
9								10	11		
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30						31					
32					33						
			34	35				36	37	38	
39	40	41					42	43			
44							45				
46							47				

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/24/20

- ACROSS**
- 1 Van Dyke & Van Patten
 - 6 Pesci or Penny
 - 9 Expect
 - 10 “___ for Adano”; film for Gene Tierney
 - 12 Injures
 - 13 “Seven ___ for Seven Brothers”
 - 14 Suffix for light or bright
 - 15 “I ___ Pretty”; “West Side Story” song
 - 16 Actress Linda
 - 19 Carroll & Carrillo
 - 23 “Whose Line ___ Anyway?”
 - 24 “Man of the ___”; Robin Williams movie
 - 25 “The ___ Woman”; Lindsay Wagner series
 - 28 “Mister ___ Neighborhood”
 - 30 Brody of “The O.C.”
 - 31 Plato, for one
 - 32 Military org. on campus
 - 33 Fonda, Falk or Finch
 - 34 Actor Richard
 - 36 Hoover or Aswan
- DOWN**
- 1 “The Hunchback of Notre ___”
 - 2 “___ a Male War Bride”; Cary Grant film
 - 3 Actress on “Bluff City Law”
 - 4 Fields or Kardashian
 - 5 Nov. 1 honorees
 - 6 “The Beverly Hillbillies” role
 - 7 “Grand ___ Opyr”
 - 8 Ernie with a club
 - 10 “The Kids ___ Alright”
 - 11 “Bob Hearts Abishola” actor
 - 13 One of John-Boy’s brothers
 - 15 ___ as a fiddle
 - 17 “___ was saying...”
 - 18 Damone or Tayback
 - 20 Special-order shoe
 - 21 Crew member’s need
 - 22 Yrbk. section
 - 25 Tavern
 - 26 Words that end the single life
 - 27 Cereal grain
 - 28 One not to be trusted
 - 29 “___ Life to Live”
 - 31 Ruby or Sandra
 - 33 “Semi-___”; Will Ferrell movie
 - 35 Slip up
 - 37 “Two ___ Half Men”
 - 38 “Bless This ___”
 - 39 Rogers or Clark
 - 40 Miner’s discovery
 - 41 2002-03 medical drama series
 - 42 “___ Ventura: Pet Detective”; Jim Carrey film
 - 43 Reply to a letter’s joke
- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | A | T | T | E | | | | S | E | A |
| S | L | O | C | | | | | R | E | D |
| E | N | E | | A | | O | R | E | | R |
| W | A | | D | | E | | G | | | |
| | | R | E | T | E | P | | C | T | O |
| | | A | N | A | | D | | A | V | A |
| | | R | E | | O | | C | I | N | |
| | A | | E | A | | | I | S | | I |
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| O | | | | | | | | T | I | A |
| | | | | | | | | S | K | |
| | | | | | | | | C | I | D |
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- 5/24/20

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

Surfer's ride		Finnish phone brand		Ski run		Ballot marks		"Happy birthday —		Intuitive feeling		More cozy Solo of "Star Wars"
								"Yikes!"				
Hydrocarbon fuel		Slow, hard worker		Sunscreen letters		Coin opening		Arizona city "Fear Street" author				
								1998 De Niro film				
Stops	Jacket part Be frugal							"Time" co-founder Ruffian, to a Brit				Public row
			German city		Sounds of woe					Day divs Twice tres		
Brandy letters Old CIA foe				Stopped working (abbr)	Little kids Part of R.S.V.P.						Dr.'s orders	Bashful
						Writer Ambrose						
Hardships Compos _								37th President				
Gearshift letters						Opera singer Norman						

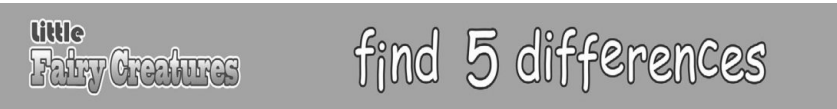
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6/26/21

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

little Fairy Creatures

find 5 differences



The image shows two identical panels side-by-side, each containing a cartoon illustration of a dragon-like creature. The creature has a large, round, spotted body, a small head with large eyes, and a long, pointed tail. It is standing on a small patch of ground with a single leaf nearby. The background consists of stylized foliage and a small rock. The text 'find 5 differences' is written above the panels.

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors



Center Ryan Donato talks to coach Jeff Blashill during practice Sept. 18 as the Blackhawks begin training camp at Fifth Third Arena. **BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

BLACKHAWKS

BUILDING BLOCK

Coming off career year, Donato hopes to keep growing, help younger Hawks

By Kalen Lumpkins
Chicago Tribune

In a Blackhawks game against the Jets last October, both teams were struggling to create shots. Forward Ryan Donato came to the rescue as he collected a pass that bounced off the side of the rink. He zoomed past Jets defenseman Dylan Samberg and hit a beautiful wrist shot from the faceoff circle, giving the Hawks a 1-0 lead.

Three weeks later, time was winding down in the third period versus the Kings. From the right side of the ice, Donato slid a centering pass to forward Tyler Bertuzzi, who scored a tying goal with 30 seconds remaining in regula-

tion. The shifty Donato then used every move he could think of in the shootout, ending the game with a goal to the left side of the net in the Hawks' 4-3 win.

It was a common pattern last season that Donato provided a boost when the Hawks needed one. His growth in all areas could make the rebuild smoother under first-year coach Jeff Blashill — beginning with Tuesday's season opener against the two-time defending champion Florida Panthers (4 p.m., ESPN).

Last season's career-best numbers may be hard to replicate for the 29-year-old Donato, but he knows he wants to produce at that level.

"I put in a lot of work this

SEASON OPENER
 **Blackhawks at Panthers**
4 p.m. Tues., ESPN

HOME OPENER
 **Canadiens at Blackhawks**
6 p.m. Sat., CHSN

summer and (I'm) continuing trying to grow and not be complacent," Donato said. "In terms of what I did last year, it obviously was great, but I'm looking to build off that and hopefully I can work hard and do the right things."

The 6-foot, 190-pound Boston native joined the Hawks in 2023 after seven seasons with four teams — the Bruins, Wild, Sharks

Turn to Hawks, Page 2



The Blackhawks' Ryan Donato, left, and Connor Bedard look to make a play April 12 at the United Center. **CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

BEARS

Things that we've learned by the bye

By Brad Biggs, Sean Hammond and Phil Thompson
Chicago Tribune

The Bears went 2-2 in September. After a Week 5 bye, they will return to action Monday night against the Washington Commanders.

The bye week is a great time to take stock in what we've seen so far — and what we might expect the remainder of the season.

The Tribune's Brad Biggs, Sean Hammond and Phil Thompson tackle five pressing questions facing the Bears after the bye.

1. What did we learn about Ben Johnson through the first four games?

Biggs: Johnson's consistency continues to shine through.



Bears coach Ben Johnson talks with quarterback Caleb Williams in the second quarter against the Lions at Ford Field on Sept. 14 in Detroit. **JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

 **UP NEXT**
Bears at Commanders
7:15 p.m. Monday, ESPN, ABC-7

He talked about being detail-driven since he arrived, and he has backed that up with actions. Remember, he pulled the starting offense off the field in the first training camp practice.

"That's on par for how Ben is," tight end Cole Kmet said, "If you're not doing it right, he's going to get you out and he's not going to see that stuff continue."

In attempting to rebuild the Bears, Johnson rolled everything back to zero and isn't skipping any steps along the way. He realizes the scale of the task he's managing.

Turn to Bears, Page 3

CUBS

The defense needs to deliver again in NLDS

By Meghan Montemurro
Chicago Tribune

MILWAUKEE — The pregame preparation is methodical.

Nearly every day, even during the hot days of summer amid the grind of a long season, Cubs infielders can be found doing the same drills on the grass in front of the dugout with major-league coach Jonathan Mota. The sequence of fielding work was brought from Atlanta by shortstop Dansby Swanson and incorporated by other Cubs infielders, who over the last three seasons have put their own twist on the five-minute drills.

Defense has been an organizational focal point for the Cubs, and they will need that area to be sound for them to bounce back from Saturday's Game 1 loss and take the best-of-five National League Division Series against the Milwaukee Brewers.

"One thing that can be a challenge throughout the 162 (games) is mentally expecting the ball to be hit to you every single pitch," second baseman Nico Hoerner said. "It sounds kind of silly, but

THE LATE SHOW
Game 2 of the NLDS between the Cubs and Brewers ended too late for this edition. For the result and coverage, go to **chicagotribune.com/sports**

NL DIVISION SERIES

 **Cubs vs. Brewers**
Best-of-five | TBS

G1: Brewers 9, Cubs 3
G2: Cubs at Brewers, late
G3: 4:08 p.m. Wednesday at Wrigley Field
G4: Thursday at Wrigley Field*
G5: Saturday at Brewers*
* If necessary; Games 4-5 times TBD

there's a level of focus and readiness beyond the skills themselves that puts you in a great place to make plays.

"And in some ways the postseason continues to bring that out of you naturally, where the heightened focus and intensity puts you

Turn to Cubs, Page 4

Team	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 BEARS					Next game Monday @WAS
 CUBS		MIL (NLDS) 4:08 p.m. TBS	MIL (NLDS) TBD TBS (if nec.)		@MIL (NLDS) TBD TBS (if nec.)
 BULLS	@CLE (exh.) 6 p.m. CHSN, Peacock		CLE (exh.) 7 p.m. CHSN+		
 BLACKHAWKS	@FLA 4 p.m. ESPN		@BOS 6 p.m. CHSN		MON 6 p.m. CHSN
 FIRE					Next game Oct. 18 @NE
 STARS				@LOU 6:30 p.m. Fox-32, Marquee	

BLACKHAWKS

Bedard’s (unsigned) extension among questions

By Kalen Lumpkins
Chicago Tribune

Hockey season is here. It’s a special year for the Blackhawks, who will celebrate the franchise’s centennial season. The team has a young star, a new coach, a stack of expiring contracts and a fan base that’s ready to win. With all of this comes questions about the future. Before the season starts Tuesday at Florida, here are some of the biggest questions the Hawks face.

1. Can the Hawks create scoring chances? In the words of Captain Obvious, the Hawks need to score more. The problem last season was not only failing to convert opportunities, but also struggling to create them. The Hawks were last in the NHL with a 42.8% scoring-chance percentage in five-on-five opportunities. The league average was 48.4%. The highest percentage belonged to the Carolina Hurricanes at 57.1% — a 14.3% separation from first to last. The Hawks’ top line will be Ryan Donato, Connor Bedard and André Burakovsky, who was with the Seattle Kraken last season. Their combined stats in 2024-25 included 64 goals and 102 assists. In his introductory news conference, coach Jeff Blashill said he wanted his offense to play fast and be predictable to each other. That should be good news for Hawks fans, as last season’s offense with minimal scoring opportunities didn’t have the chance to work with each other.

2. Will the defense be aggressive? n an Oct. 26 game in Dallas, Stars defenseman Miro Heiskanen collected a pass on the left side of the ice. He drove toward the goal and, instead of taking a shot, delivered the puck right past Hawks defensemen Connor Murphy and Alex Vlasic. Resting behind the pair was Stars captain Jamie Benn, who received the pass off his left shoulder and flicked it midair past goalie Petr Mrazek — now with the Anaheim Ducks — for Dallas’ second goal of the game.

Take that scenario and multiply it by a big number because it happened a lot. The Hawks defense was too slow throughout 2024-25, leading to a season-long stay in their defensive zone. The Hawks’ stagnant movement allowed opponents to create 24.9 scoring chances per game, second-most in the NHL behind the Anaheim Ducks (25.8). Additionally, the Hawks had the second-lowest faceoff winning percentage at 44.8%. This led to long nights for Mrazek and Arvid Soderblom, and there’s only so much you can do when opponents have so many opportunities. A Hawks defense that’s aggressive, especially in the neutral zone, should give the goalies much-needed time to rest. The addition of Spencer Knight, who thrives off of rebounds, also should help. Sam Rinzel had an impressive training camp and will be in the top pairing with Vlasic. Artyom Levshunov will be in the second pairing, and both he and Rinzel are great at using their sticks and disrupting plays.



The Blackhawks’ Connor Bedard plays against the Red Wings in the second period of a preseason game on Sept. 23 at Little Caesars Arena in Detroit. GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY



Blackhawks defenseman Sam Rinzel shoots on goal during practice on Sept. 10 at Fifth Third Arena. DOMINIC DI PALERMO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blashill’s vision for the defense is “when we don’t have the puck, we’re a pressure team.” Easier said than done, but a Hawks defense that embraces pressure could flip the team on its head. **3. Will Connor Bedard sign an extension?** There hasn’t been any sign that Bedard won’t sign an extension with the Hawks next summer. There hasn’t been a sign of anything, really, as the 2023 top pick has been mum about his contract talks. His fellow forward Frank Nazar signed a seven year, \$46.13 million contract in August after just 56 NHL games played. It’s clear the Hawks believe Nazar will take a leap and be an integral part of the future.

So ... what’s the wait with Bedard? Entering his third season, Bedard needs to improve his speed and faceoff percentage, but his playmaking and vision match those of any other NHL star. A new voice will be welcome, even though Bedard had mixed feelings about the firing of former coach Luke Richardson. Bedard had five goals, 17 giveaways and a 30% faceoff percentage in the first 26 games last season before Richardson’s departure. Blashill believes Bedard will reach new heights in the centennial season, and his play will be a large factor in the coach’s immediate reputation with the front office. If Bedard does reach these heights, though, it could put the Hawks in a

weird position. The better Bedard plays, the more money he will be worth when contract talks resume. The Hawks have the most cap space in the NHL — but also a hefty number of young players and prospects who might command new deals in the future. Blashill’s biggest job may be to make Bedard truly believe the team will start winning in the future. Blashill said right out of the gate he can’t put a timeline on when the losing will decrease, so that could leave an early impression. Davidson said there’s no concern regarding Bedard’s extension — but how patient is Bedard willing to be? **4. Three years removed from his last head coaching gig, how will Jeff Blashill do?** Blashill’s style in a few words: “I want to score a lot and give up a little,” he said at his introductory news conference. Yes, that’s a good place to start. It will be interesting to see how things look in his first head coaching role in four seasons. His last stint was with the Detroit Red Wings from 2015-22. He had a 204-261-72 record in seven seasons before his firing. The Wings made the playoffs in his first season, losing in the first round to the Tampa Bay Lightning in five games. Blashill spent the last three seasons on Lightning coach Jon Cooper’s staff. It was a needed step back for him to be a part of a consistent winning staff. That, along with what he learned in Detroit, is the reason Davidson was confident in the hire. What did he learn? The only way

to answer that is with the product he puts on the ice. **5. What will the team look like come season’s end?** The deeper the Hawks go into their rebuild, the more moves they’ll need to make. They went all-in on new deals for Nazar and Vlasic, so they might be taking a “sign now, figure it out later” approach with their young players. Knight is a name to watch for. The expected starting goalie arrived in a deadline trade with the Panthers last season and finished a combined 17-16-1 with a .910 save percentage for the two teams. With one year left on his contract, don’t be surprised if the Hawks look to keep him on board for a long period. Murphy, Jason Dickinson, Nick Foligno and Ilya Mikheyev are other notable names entering the last year on their contracts. If the Hawks are confident in their youth, Murphy and Dickinson could be on the move. Murphy, 31, put up 19 points in 68 games in 2024-25. The defenseman’s cap number this season is \$4.4 million, and he will be an unrestricted free agent after the season. Dickinson, 30, could be an enticing figure in the trade market, offering veteran experience and depth. He averaged 15 minutes, 42 seconds of ice time last season and had 16 points in 59 games. Lukas Reichel spent the entirety of training camp surrounded by trade rumors but remains on the Hawks roster. He may have one more year to prove he can play his best hockey in Chicago.

Hawks

from Page 1

and Kraken. He had only one season with more than 30 points before arriving in Chicago. In his first season with the Hawks, Donato set then-personal bests in assists (18) and average ice time (14:00), creating opportunities for his younger teammates to finish plays. Last season, it was Donato’s turn to put the cherry on top. He was more aggressive with his solo playmaking without losing his generosity, leading to improved numbers for teammates. He finished the season with

career highs in goals (31), assists (31), points (62), average ice time (16:19) and games played (80). He had 46 games with at least one point, including 11 with two or more. The Hawks won 17 of those 46 games (37%), compared with eight wins in 36 games (22.2%) when Donato didn’t show up on the scoresheet or didn’t play. When he had two or more points, the Hawks were 5-4-2. It’s a small difference but it signals the team is better when Donato is at his best. “I’m trying to exceed,” Donato said of his 2024-25 season. “If you kind of aim for consistency, that’s fine. But for me, I want to continue

to grow. “If I can grow and continue to work off the year that I had last year and help the younger guys while I do it, that’s when good things happen and hopefully they’ll help the team.” The surge in his play brought interest from around the league during trade season. In June, he signed a four-year, \$16 million extension through the 2028-29 season, a \$4 million average annual value. Donato had expressed his desire to remain a Hawk before the extension. “We would have liked to be in the playoffs, and (that’s) something to push for, but definitely happy with the results,” Donato

said at the end of the season. “But I always think there’s room to grow for me and something that I want to do this year.” He will skate on the top line alongside Connor Bedard and André Burakovsky. The veteran skaters accompanying Bedard can raise the center’s game to a new level, and Donato’s consistent scoring can take weight off the young star’s shoulders. “There’s a lot of combinations and lines that are in the mix, and you don’t really know until you play in real game situations,” Donato said. “I’ve had chemistry with a lot of guys in this team, but at the same time, it always depends on the year.”

In a statement at the time of Donato’s extension, general manager Kyle Davidson shared his confidence in the forward’s abilities. “Ryan brings energy and competes hard every game, which has been a huge asset to our team over the last two seasons,” Davidson said. “He’s been a crucial part of our offense, and we’re excited for Ryan to continue to make a difference in our lineup for the next four years.” Donato put his chips in the middle of the table, staying with the Hawks during their development. If he plays like he did last season, that rebuild could be shorter than anticipated.

BEARS

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 6	WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	WEEK 11	WEEK 12	WEEK 13	WEEK 14	WEEK 15	WEEK 16	WEEK 17	WEEK 18
Sept. 8	Sept. 14	Sept. 21	Sept. 28	Oct. 13	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Nov. 16	Nov. 23	Nov. 28	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 20	Dec. 28	TBD
																
MIN	@DET	DAL	@LV	@WAS	NO	@BAL	@CIN	NYG	@MIN	PIT	@PHI	@GB	CLE	GB	@SF	DET
Loss	Loss	Win	Win	7:15 p.m.	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	Noon	2 p.m.	Noon	Noon	TBD	7:20 p.m.	TBD
27-24	52-21	31-14	25-24	ABC-7	Fox-32	CBS-2	CBS-2	Fox-32	Fox-32	CBS-2	Prime	Fox-32	Fox-32	Fox-32	NBC-5	TBD



Commanders quarterback Jayden Daniels runs next to Chargers outside linebacker Bud Dupree during the second half Sunday in Inglewood, Calif. **CARRIE GIORDANO/AP**

COMMANDERS

Having Daniels back changes everything

By **Howard Fendrich**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Jayden Daniels plopped his helmet on the sideline and turned to see general manager Adam Peters in a blazer. They slapped palms and hugged, both with big smiles.

Yes, Daniels was back in action for the Washington Commanders — and back in a big way.

The exchange between the star quarterback and the guy who selected him second in last year's NFL draft came after Daniels connected with Deebo Samuel on a fourth-down touchdown pass with a little more than a minute left Sunday, capping a 99-yard drive and a 27-10 road victory against the Los Angeles Chargers and their seemingly elite defense.

The win was the Commanders' first on the road this season, put them back above .500 at 3-2 and made clear, yet again, that a healthy Daniels changes everything for coach Dan Quinn's team.

"He just has an X factor about him on the third and fourth downs," Quinn said. "He can go create and make some plays."

Daniels went 15 of 26 for 231 yards and the scoring toss to Samuel. The reigning AP NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year also ran eight times for 39 yards, including a designed run on the game's second play, perhaps to show everyone — including Daniels himself — that the injured left knee that held him out for the previous two games, and was protected Sunday by a bulky brace, was just fine.

Asked afterward how he felt in his first action in 3½ weeks, Daniels replied: "I mean, y'all tell me how the knee looked."

Daniels and the Commanders play host Monday night to the Chicago Bears and quarterback Caleb Williams, who went No. 1 in the 2024 draft ahead of Daniels.



The Commanders celebrate after recovering a fumble by Chargers wide receiver Quentin Johnston during the first half Sunday in Inglewood, Calif. **ERIC THAYER/AP**

What needs help

For the third time in three road games, the Commanders fell behind. They trailed 10-0 in the first quarter — just as they did the previous week in a loss in Atlanta. And in Week 2, the Commanders fell behind 14-0 in a loss in Green Bay.

At least this time Quinn's team recovered, scoring the last 27 points.

Stock up

The defense. The Commanders turned in their most complete defensive performance of 2025 against Justin Herbert, sacking him five times, limiting him to 166 passing yards and shutting out the Chargers over the last three quarters.

Sure, it helped that the Chargers offensive line was depleted. The entire complexion of the game switched when Quan Martin stripped Quentin Johnson in the second quarter and Marshon Lattimore recovered the fumble. The hosts led 10-0; Washington turned the turnover into a touchdown and was on its way.

"It gave us a breath of fresh air," cornerback Mike Sainristil said. "From that point forward, we were where we needed to be all the time."

Stock down

Chris Moore. The 10th-year wide receiver had one pass sent

his way Sunday — and it went right through his hands in the end zone.

Moore was targeted three times in Washington's previous game — and had zero catches that day too.

Injuries

Washington came out of a game without any significant new injuries for a change, although wide receiver Terry McLaurin sat out for the second consecutive week with an injured quadriceps. Another starting receiver, Noah Brown, missed his third consecutive game with groin and knee issues.

Key stat

3 — Turnovers forced by Washington's defense the last two games after collecting zero in the first three games. Sainristil has two of the three, with an interception of Herbert at the goal line in the fourth quarter Sunday following his pick of Michael Penix Jr. a week earlier in Atlanta.

Up next

First-year coach Ben Johnson and the Bears (2-2) are coming off their bye after two wins in a row. The matchup means revisiting one of the signature plays of Daniels' rookie season: the 52-yard Hail Mary TD throw to Brown to end Washington's 18-15 victory on Oct. 27, 2024.

Bears

from Page 1

ing and remains process-driven through both disappointing losses to open the season and the last two victories. That should benefit him in the long run when the process starts affecting the results more regularly.

Hammond: His players play hard for him. Look no further than his postgame speeches after the two victories. He's a fiery coach who feels like a 180-degree turn from his predecessor.

Johnson might be a "snot-nosed computer punk" at heart — as Dan Campbell used to call him — but he's a lot more than that. This is a coach who knows how he wants things to be done, and if it's not working, he's going to do something about it — like changing the lineup on the offensive line.

Thompson: We learned that, while Johnson can be no-nonsense and demanding of his players (not a bad thing), he also takes accountability for his role in his team's shortcomings, including the running game and run defense. That's all you can ask of a rookie head coach — for now.

Offensively, he's not afraid to be aggressive or pull out a bag of tricks on occasion, but he's not gimmicky. He has to iron out some kinks in game management, though.

2. What did we learn about Caleb Williams through the first four games?

Biggs: Williams has made significant gains since the start of the offseason program, and you can also identify improvements from the opener through the Week 4 victory in Las Vegas.

Against the Minnesota Vikings, he looked very much like he did as a rookie, leaving the pocket unnecessarily, failing to play with tempo and being the victim of his own poor footwork. Since then he has been better playing on schedule and in rhythm. He's more comfortable standing in the pocket and letting it rip, and he has been good situationally, especially at the end of halves.

As Williams' command at the line of scrimmage grows — and it should with a lot of football remaining this season — he can ascend further.

Hammond: I see a quarterback who is showing signs that he's figuring out how to deal with pressure. Watching Maxx Crosby wreak havoc in Week 4, it's pretty remarkable that Crosby didn't have a sack. Williams did a great job of avoiding pressure without simply bailing from the pocket, as he so often did as a rookie.

Was it perfect? No, but he avoided major errors. You can't make boneheaded mistakes in the NFL and expect to win games. Other than one bad interception against the Detroit Lions, Williams has taken care of the football.

Thompson: It's hard to tell from just four games. He still seems a little erratic under pressure, though he handled himself well in the second half against Crosby and the Raiders.

Williams' completion percentage (62.3%) and interception rate (1.5%) are similar to his rookie season, but his touchdown rate of 6.2% (eight TDs) is a big leap from last season's 3.6%.

3. Fill in the blank: The strongest position group on the 2025 Bears roster is ____?

Biggs: You'd probably like to say the interior of the offensive line, given the huge investment the team made in guards Joe Thuney and Jonah Jackson and center Drew Dalman. While the pass protection has been much better — the Bears are 10th in sack rate at 4.55% after ranking 32nd last season at 10.03% — the rushing offense has been problematic.

So I'll go with the wide receivers. Rome Odunze is emerging as a No. 1 target for Williams with 20 catches for 295 yards and five touchdowns. Mix in DJ Moore, Olamide Zaccheaus and understand there will be an expanded role for rookie Luther Burden III as the season unfolds, and it's easy to pick this group.

Hammond: I'm right there with Biggs. Before the season I would've said the secondary, but injuries have made that group thin. Looking at this team now, Odunze's rise was one of the best storylines of September.

If Moore is your second option and Burden can come in and make a wow play every once in a while, that's a pretty solid combination.

Thompson: The secondary. I know



Bears wide receiver Rome Odunze catches a pass and scores in the first quarter against the Cowboys at Soldier Field on Sept. 21. **STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

it sounds crazy to pick a group that has allowed a league-high 10 passing touchdowns, tied with the Dallas Cowboys, but consider this: The Bears lead the NFL with a 6.14% interception rate despite having some of the worst pass-rush numbers.

Quarterbacks have had the third-longest time to throw (2.95 seconds), which tracks with the Bears' second-slowest time to pressure (2.97 seconds). And some of the secondary's top contributors still are working their way back from injuries, including Kyler Gordon and Jaylon Johnson.

4. Conversely, what's one aspect of the game or one position group where you feel less clarity than you did four weeks ago?

Biggs: The defensive line is under the microscope because the Bears have struggled to stop the run, an issue that didn't just pop up last week when Raiders rookie Ashton Jeanty got loose. The Bears rank last in the league in run defense, allowing 164.5 yards per game, and last in yards per carry at 6.15.

That's not just on the linemen, but they really struggled to get off blocks in Las Vegas against an offensive line that performed poorly through the first three weeks. The Bears are also tied for 26th with only six sacks, and while the pass rush (like the run defense) is a combination of the front and back ends of the defense, it starts up front. An examination of what ails the defense starts in the trenches.

Hammond: While the D-line has certainly been a concern, I'm going to point toward the running game. D'Andre Swift has been one of the least efficient running backs in the league.

Per NFL Next Gen Stats, Swift is spending an average of 3 seconds per carry behind the line of scrimmage. That's eighth-most among 43 running backs with enough carries to qualify. Swift has been underwhelming, and a second option hasn't really emerged.

Thompson: The tight ends. By his own admission, Ben Johnson hasn't involved them enough in the game plan. And it hasn't helped that rookie Colston Loveland has missed time with a hip injury.

5. To quote Dennis Green, are the Bears who we thought they were? In other words, have your feelings changed one way or another about where this team might finish come Week 18?

Biggs: The narrative surrounding Williams has certainly improved since the start of the season, and considering his development is the top storyline for this season, that's a positive.

The Bears are 0-2 in the division and have a ways to go to be competitive on a consistent basis against their rivals. That hasn't changed. The schedule looks more favorable than it did over the summer. I still think this is a team that hovers in the neighborhood of eight wins, which would represent a nice step forward from where it was in 2024.

Hammond: I expected this team to be around .500 and that's exactly where it is after four weeks. The beatdown in Detroit was certainly concerning, and it doesn't bode well for looming matchups against the NFC's best, including the Green Bay Packers (twice), Philadelphia Eagles, San Francisco 49ers and the Lions again.

There are enough winnable games that this team can reach eight or nine wins.

Thompson: My feelings haven't changed at all. I expected some early growing pains — and there will be more to come. The lack of a pass rush isn't all that surprising, but the lack of a running game is when you consider Johnson worked with Swift in Detroit.

But the birth of a competent passing game represents huge progress, given the Bears finished second-to-last in passing yards per game (181.5) last season.

SPORTS

BULLS

Buzelis has lofty goals for Year 2

By Julia Poe
Chicago Tribune

Matas Buzelis always wants to be coached harder. That has been a trend since the second-year forward stepped into the Advocate Center for his first training session with the Bulls last season.

Buzelis doesn't want to be coddled. It doesn't matter that he was a teenager when he was drafted. Or that he didn't earn a starting role until the final third of his rookie season. Buzelis wants to push himself into the next echelon of NBA talent, separating himself from the promising hopefuls and establishing himself as a legitimate star of the future.

That means setting goals — and standards.

Buzelis has lofty expectations for Year 2. He wants to be named to one of the NBA's All-Defensive teams. He also wants to be considered for Most Improved Player, an award rarely handed out to players in their second seasons. To reach that stature, Buzelis doesn't want the Bulls coaching staff to hold back.

"I want to be held accountable," he said. "It doesn't matter if it's being yelled at in front of everyone, in solitude, in the video room — it doesn't matter to me. I want to be coached and held to that standard."

Criticism can come from anywhere. Teammates? Coaches? Fans? The media? Buzelis wants to hear it all. "That's fine with me."

To coach Billy Donovan, this mentality is Buzelis' strongest asset as a player — even more than his splashy dunks or blocked shots.

Buzelis had to earn every inch of freedom in his debut season. Donovan yanked him off the court for the smallest errors — poor screen navigation on defense, stagnant relocation on offense — and confined him to garbage time and short first-



Bulls forward Matas Buzelis poses for photos during media day on Sept. 29 at the United Center.
EILEEN T. MESLAR/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

half stints for weeks at a time. By the midpoint of the season, Buzelis was averaging only 12.9 minutes with two healthy scratches.

But if he was ever discouraged by his limited playing time, he never showed it. And Donovan believes Buzelis "exceeded expectations" as a rookie due to his ability to receive and apply feedback from the entire coaching staff.

"He really wants to be pushed and challenged," Donovan said. "He's always been that way. He's

got a really good ability to quickly course-correct and try to learn from it and move forward.

"I don't think Matas has ever taken the easy way out. He's always taking the tougher road, and I give him credit for putting himself out there who he wants to be as a player."

Year 1 was a success. But that doesn't mean anything is guaranteed in Year 2.

Player development was something of a mystery to Buzelis when

he began his rookie season. He didn't know how to eat or sleep to the standards of a professional athlete. He wanted to spend as much time as possible in the gym, but once he got onto the court, he felt lost about what to work on to improve his playing time.

"It was difficult for me at first," he admitted.

That confusion evaporated over the course of the season. After spending extensive time with the player development staff, Buze-

lis knew his three major points of emphasis for the offseason: ball-handling, off-the-dribble shooting and navigating the pick-and-roll.

With Buzelis now firmly entrenched as a starter for the upcoming season, the Bulls are prepared to run more of the offense through him. This means he will be expected to play with the ball in his hands, a departure from the mostly reactive role he filled last season.

In a season already defined by the team's desire to become more physical, Buzelis wants to stand out in the frontcourt. He didn't back down from contact as a rookie, but at times he was overpowered by bulkier bigs. At 6-foot-10 and 209 pounds, Buzelis is lengthy enough to defend up to the five but lacks the heft of a typical NBA center.

The Bulls need Buzelis to get stronger — but they don't want him to bulk up too much to preserve his mobility and bounce. After a summer spent in the weight room, Buzelis feels better equipped to match opponents this year.

"I believe I was physical," he said. "But can I be more physical? Absolutely. Can I be better? Absolutely."

In many ways, the Bulls' future will hinge on the outcome of this season for Buzelis. Even with the team's investment in players such as Josh Giddey and Coby White, Buzelis has a different type of potential.

But he also has plenty to prove before his potential can be translated into dependable stardom. He knows that. The team knows that. And that truth rings as an inspiration — not a burden — for a young player eager to tackle his second year in the league.

"There's no pressure (on) me," Buzelis said. "I know how hard I work. I know there's going to be bumps and bruises in the road, but my mentality is always to be the best, to help the team win."

Cubs

from Page 1

in a really great place to just go compete and make plays."

The Brewers lineup is the kind that can challenge a defense and pounce on mistakes — as it did in Game 1. Hoerner's error in the first inning of the 9-3 loss led to four unearned runs off Matthew Boyd, a rare defensive miscue from the Gold Glove winner. It was the type of play the Cubs can't afford if they don't want the NLDS to be a short series, especially with the Brewers' offensive profile.

During the regular season, the Brewers ranked in the bottom third of the majors in home runs, 29th in hard-hit percentage and 28th in average exit velocity. But they were tied for third in zone contact percentage and ranked fourth in chase contact percentage. Their methodical approach, featuring the third-lowest swing percentage, can put pressure on a



Brewers players Blake Perkins, left, and Sal Frelick celebrate after scoring on a single by Jackson Chourio in the first inning of Game 1 of the NL Division Series against the Cubs on Saturday at American Family Field in Milwaukee.
CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

defense with such a high frequency of balls in play.

The Cubs have prioritized building an elite defense, starting up the middle. Swanson's track record

made him an ideal fit at shortstop to pair with Hoerner and, eventually, center fielder Pete Crow-Armstrong. Swanson knew the Cubs were looking to make defense part

of their identity when he signed with them before the 2023 season. He noted how defense often gets overlooked when trying to put together a winning team.

"It's not always, like, the coolest or sexiest thing," Swanson said. "But when you convert outs into outs and convert plays that aren't typically outs into outs, it really can limit another team's chances of scoring."

"Runs are at a premium in the postseason, and it really increases your chances of winning when you play good defense."

Elite defense is a common theme among the teams that made the postseason this year. The top five teams in Statcast's Fielding Run Value all made the playoffs: the Toronto Blue Jays (+45), Cubs (+40), Brewers (+31), Cleveland Guardians (+28) and Boston Red Sox (+21). A few outliers — the Seattle Mariners (-30, 26th in MLB), Philadelphia Phillies (-13, 21st) and Cincinnati Reds (-8, 20th) — managed to outthit or outpitch

their defensive struggles to reach October.

The Cubs see their defense as a backbone of their success. They will need it to deliver in the remaining NLDS games like it did in the wild-card series against the San Diego Padres.

"Throughout our group, whether it's us two up the middle or throughout the defense, there's a really high standard," Hoerner said. "There's not one way to go about it, but when you're around other people that are doing things at a high level, it brings out the best in yourself. As we've found more consistency within our lineup as well, you get a feel for everybody that's around you and how the spacing works and you get in a rhythm as a group, and that makes all of us better."

"A lot of these playoff games throughout baseball have been so low-scoring. Every run is at a premium, so you're able to take a couple away in one game, it's a huge deal."



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SCOREBOARD

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE									
EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
Buffalo	4	1	0	.800	153	113			
New England	3	2	0	.600	125	101			
Miami	1	4	0	.200	107	145			
N.Y. Jets	0	5	0	.000	112	157			
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
Indianapolis	4	1	0	.800	163	89			
Jacksonville	3	1	0	.750	96	72			
Houston	2	3	0	.400	108	61			
Tennessee	1	4	0	.200	73	141			
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
Pittsburgh	3	1	0	.750	96	98			
Cincinnati	2	3	0	.400	85	156			
Baltimore	1	4	0	.200	141	177			
Cleveland	1	4	0	.200	73	123			
WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
Denver	3	2	0	.600	117	84			
L.A. Chargers	3	2	0	.600	98	98			
Kansas City	2	2	0	.500	97	76			
Las Vegas	1	4	0	.200	83	139			

NATIONAL CONFERENCE									
EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
Philadelphia	4	1	0	.800	125	109			
Washington	3	2	0	.600	134	101			
Dallas	2	2	1	.500	151	154			
N.Y. Giants	1	4	0	.200	87	127			
SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
Tampa Bay	4	1	0	.800	135	132			
Atlanta	2	2	0	.500	76	86			
Carolina	2	3	0	.400	102	119			
New Orleans	1	4	0	.200	92	135			
NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
Detroit	4	1	0	.800	174	112			
Green Bay	2	1	1	.625	104	84			
Minnesota	3	2	0	.600	123	97			
Chicago	2	2	0	.500	101	117			
WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA			
San Francisco	4	1	0	.800	106	98			
L.A. Rams	3	2	0	.600	123	107			
Seattle	3	2	0	.600	146	105			
Arizona	2	3	0	.400	103	96			

WEEK 5
MONDAY'S RESULT
Kansas City at Jacksonville, late

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Minnesota 21, Cleveland 17, London, UK
Carolina 27, Miami 24
Dallas 37, N.Y. Jets 22
Denver 21, Philadelphia 17
Houston 44, Baltimore 10
Indianapolis 40, Las Vegas 6
New Orleans 26, N.Y. Giants 14
Tampa Bay 38, Seattle 35
Tennessee 22, Arizona 21
Detroit 37, Cincinnati 24
Washington 27, L.A. Chargers 10
New England 23, Buffalo 20

THURSDAY'S RESULT
San Francisco 26, L.A. Rams 23, OT
Off: Pittsburgh, Atlanta,
Chicago, Green Bay

WEEK 6
THURSDAY'S GAME
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 7:15p.m.

SUNDAY, OCT. 12
Denver vs N.Y. Jets at London, UK, 8:30 a.m.
Arizona at Indianapolis, noon
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, noon
Dallas at Carolina, noon
L.A. Chargers at Miami, noon
L.A. Rams at Baltimore, noon
New England at New Orleans, noon
Seattle at Jacksonville, noon
Tennessee at Las Vegas, 3:05p.m.
Cincinnati at Green Bay, 3:25p.m.
San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 3:25p.m.
Detroit at Kansas City, 7:20p.m.
Off: Houston, Minnesota

MONDAY, OCT. 13
Buffalo at Atlanta, 6:15p.m.
Chicago at Washington, 7:15p.m.

LATE SUNDAY:
NEW ENGLAND 23, BUFFALO 20
New England 3 3 7 10 - 23
Buffalo 0 3 7 10 - 20
First Quarter
NE: FG Borregales 30, :56.
Second Quarter
Buf: FG Prater 31, 9:34.
NE: FG Borregales 19, :00.
Third Quarter
Buf: Samuel 6pass from Allen (Prater kick), 9:21.
NE: Stevenson 4 run (Borregales kick), 6:34.
Fourth Quarter
NE: Stevenson 7 run (Borregales kick), 12:10.
Buf: Coleman 2 pass from Allen (Prater kick), 7:37.
Buf: FG Prater 45, 2:17.
NE: FG Borregales 52, :15.

TEAM STATS	NE	BUF
Total downs	21	25
First Net Yards	338	363
Rushes-yards	22-71	29-118
Passing	26-77	24-5
Punt Returns	1-0	0-0
Kickoff Returns	5-112	5-127
Interceptions Ret.	1-0	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	22-30-0	22-31-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	4-6	1-8
Punts	4-47.75	2-35.0
Fumbles-Lost	2-1	2-2
Penalties-Yards	8-93	11-90
Time of Possession	25:29	34:31

RUSHING: NE, Henderson 6-24, Gibson 6-21, Stevenson 7-14, Maye 3-12. Buf, Allen 9-53, Cook 15-49, TyJohnson 2-10, Shakir 1-5, R.Davis 2-1.
PASSING: NE, Maye 22-30-0-273. Buf, Allen 22-31-1-253.
RECEIVING: NE, Diggs 10-146, Boutte 3-43, Henry 2-46, Douglas 2-17, Stevenson 2-13, Henderson 2-3, Gibson 1-5. Buf, Kincaid 6-108, Shakir 6-45, Coleman 4-23, Palmer 2-36, Samuel 2-26, Knox 2-15.
INTERCEPTIONS: NE, M.Jones 1-0.
TACKLES-ASSISTS-SACKS: NE, Spillane 5-3-0, M.Williams 2-2-5. Buf, Bernard 6-0-0, Rousseau 5-1-1, Thompson 4-1-1, Bishop 2-0-1.

TENNIS

ROLEX SHANGHAI MASTERS
Monday at Qizhong Forest Sports City Arena; outdoors, hardcourt
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
Arthur Rinderknech d. #3Alexander Zverev, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.
#7Alex de Minaur d. Kamil Majchrzak, 6-1, 7-5.
#8Lorenzo Musetti d. #26Luciano Darderi, 7-5, 7-6(1).
#12Felix Auger-Aliassime d. Jesper De Jong, 6-4, 7-5.
#15Jiri Lehecka d. #23Denis Shapovalov, 6-4, 6-4.
#16Daniil Medvedev d. #18Alejandro Davidovich Fokina, 6-3, 7-6(5).
Nuno Borges d. Juncheng Shang, 7-6(5), 4-6, 6-3.
Learner Tien d. #30Cameron Norrie, 7-6(4), 6-3.
WTA WUHAN OPEN
Monday at Optics Valley Int'l Tennis Center; Wuhan China; outdoors, hard
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 64
#9Ekatrina Alexandrova d. Victoria Mboko, 6-3, 6-2.
#10Clara Tauson d. Olga Danilovic, 6-3, 7-5.
Moyuka Uchijima d. Wang Xinyu, 6-4, 7-6(3).
Yuan Yue d. Lucia Bronzetti, 7-6(2), 7-6(1).
Antonia Ruzic d. Magda Linette, 6-2, 6-3.
Jessica Bouzas Maneiro d. Varvara Gracheva, 7-6(0), 6-2.
Maya Joint d. Zhu Lin, 7-5, 7-6(10).

WTA MALLORCA CHAMPIONSHIPS
Monday at Santa Ponsa Tennis Academy; Mallorca, Spain; outdoors, grass
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#1 Solana Sierra d. Dalila Spiteri, 6-4, 6-1.
#2 Mayar Sherif d. Mariella Thamm, 6-0, 6-0.
#3 Darja Semeništaja d. Yelyzaveta Kotliar, 6-1, 6-1.
Noma Noha Akugue d. #4 Panna Udvardy, 6-4, 6-1.
#6 Oksana Selekhmeteva d. Julia Stusek, 6-2, 6-1.
Andrea Lazzaro Garcia d. Tamara Zidansek, 6-3, 6-0.
Aneta Kucmova d. Cristina Diaz Adrover, 6-1, 1-6, 6-2.
Guilomar Maristany Zuleta De Reales d. Irene Burriel, 6-3, 6-4.
Carole Monnet d. Mona Barthel, 6-1, 6-4.
Teodora Kostovic d. Caroline Werner, 6-3, 6-3.

WNBA FINALS

LAS VEGAS 2, PHOENIX 0
(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)
G1: Las Vegas 89-86
G2: G2 Las Vegas 91-78.
Wednesday: G3 at Phoenix, 7 p.m.
Friday: G4 at Phoenix, 7 p.m.
x-Sunday: G5 at Las Vegas, 2 p.m.
x-Wed., Oct. 15: G6 at Phoenix, 7 p.m.
x-Fri., Oct. 17: G7 at Las Vegas, TBD

NBA PRESEASON

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB					
New York	2	0	1.000	—					
Brooklyn	1	0	1.000	½					
Philadelphia	0	2	.000	2					
Boston	0	0	.000	1					
Toronto	0	0	.000	1					
Southeast	W	L	Pct	GB					
Orlando	1	0	1.000	—					
Miami	0	1	.000	1					
Charlotte	0	1	.000	1					
Atlanta	0	0	.000	½					
Washington	0	0	.000	½					
Central	W	L	Pct	GB					
Chicago	0	0	.000	—					
Cleveland	0	0	.000	—					
Detroit	0	0	.000	—					
Indiana	0	0	.000	—					
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	—					

WESTERN CONFERENCE									
Southwest	W	L	Pct	GB					
New Orleans	2	0	1.000	—					
Dallas	0	0	.000	1					
Houston	0	0	.000	1					
Memphis	0	0	.000	1					
San Antonio	0	0	.000	1					
Northwest	W	L	Pct	GB					
Minnesota	1	0	1.000	—					
Oklahoma City	0	1	.000	—					
Denver	0	1	.000	1					
Portland	0	0	.000	½					
Utah	0	0	.000	½					
Pacific	W	L	Pct	GB					
Golden State	1	0	1.000	—					
Phoenix	1	0	1.000	—					
L.A. Clippers	0	0	.000	½					
Sacramento	0	0	.000	½					
L.A. Lakers	0	2	.000	1½					

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Milwaukee at Miami, late
Atlanta at Houston, late
Detroit at Memphis, late
Guangzhou at San Antonio, late
Oklahoma City at Dallas, late
Denver at Toronto, late

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Chicago at Cleveland, 6p.m.
Indiana at Minnesota, 7p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
San Antonio at Miami, 6:30p.m.
Boston at Memphis, 7p.m.
Utah at Houston, 7p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 9p.m.
Toronto at Sacramento, 9p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Minnesota at New York, 6:30p.m.
Charlotte at Oklahoma City, 7p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago, 7p.m.
Detroit at Milwaukee, 7p.m.
Guangzhou at L.A. Clippers, 9:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Oklahoma City 135, Charlotte 114
Golden State 111, L.A. Lakers 103

NHL

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Chicago at Florida, 4p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Rangers, 7p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 9:30p.m.

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Montreal at Toronto, 6p.m.
Boston at Washington, 6:30p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 9p.m.
Los Angeles at Vegas, 9p.m.

ODDS

MLB PLAYOFFS				TUESDAY			
AL Division Series	FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE	FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
Seattle	-132	at Detroit	+112	at N.Y. Yankees	-146	Toronto	+124

NHL				TUESDAY			
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE	FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Florida	-285	Chicago	+230	at Florida	-285	Chicago	+230
at N.Y. Rangers	-220	Pittsburgh	+180	at N.Y. Rangers	-220	Pittsburgh	+180
at Los Angeles	-122	Colorado	+102	at Los Angeles	-122	Colorado	+102
Stanley Cup Champion							
Carolina	15-2	Edmonton	15-2	Carolina	15-2	Edmonton	15-2
Tampa Bay	8-1	Vegas	17-2	Tampa Bay	8-1	Vegas	17-2
Colorado	9-1	Florida	19-2	Colorado	9-1	Florida	19-2
Dallas	10-1	New Jersey	15-1	Dallas	10-1	New Jersey	15-1
Toronto	18-1	Los Angeles	22-1	Toronto	18-1	Los Angeles	22-1
Winnipeg	28-1	N.Y. Rangers	33-1	Winnipeg	28-1	N.Y. Rangers	33-1
Ottawa	33-1	Washington	33-1	Ottawa	33-1	Washington	33-1
Minnesota	40-1	Montreal	50-1	Minnesota	40-1	Montreal	50-1
St. Louis	50-1	Utah	50-1	St. Louis	50-1	Utah	50-1
Nashville	75-1	Vancouver	75-1	Nashville	75-1	Vancouver	75-1
Anaheim	100-1	Calgary	100-1	Anaheim	100-1	Calgary	100-1
Columbus	100-1	Detroit	100-1	Columbus	100-1	Detroit	100-1
Boston	125-1	Buffalo	125-1	Boston	125-1	Buffalo	125-1
N.Y. Islanders	150-1	Philadelphia	150-1	N.Y. Islanders	150-1	Philadelphia	150-1
Pittsburgh	200-1	Seattle	200-1	Pittsburgh	200-1	Seattle	200-1
Chicago	500-1	San Jose	500-1	Chicago	500-1	San Jose	500-1

NFL	
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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

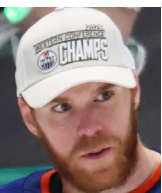
SHORTS

Logano still alive in NASCAR playoffs



Joey Logano, winner of two of the last three Cup Series championships, was never part of the conversation of potential elimination from NASCAR playoffs. At least not until Sunday's race at Charlotte Motor Speedway, where the Team Penske driver found himself struggling most of the race and in a tense battle with Ross Chastain for the final spot in the round of eight. The two swapped the final transfer spot multiple times as NASCAR prepared to cut the field from 12 drivers to eight ahead of the third round of the playoffs. Chastain was in, then it was Logano, then the two were tied with Logano holding the tie-breaker. Logano, on fresher tires, worked his way through the field for every point possible. Chastain was nursing old Goodyears. And then came Denny Hamlin. The Hamlin and Chastain cars had contact, Chastain spun, and crossed the finish line backward in 21st, one spot behind Logano. It was enough to give Logano the final spot in the third round of the playoffs and eliminate Chastain. Shane van Gisbergen, meanwhile, won his fifth consecutive race on a road or street course.

McDavid forgoes raise in extension



Connor McDavid did not want more money. He wants to win the Stanley Cup. McDavid signed his long-awaited contract extension with the Oilers on Monday, taking far less than projected for the best hockey player in the world in the aim of pursuing his first championship. The 28-year-old three-time MVP and the Oilers finalized a two-year, \$25 million contract on the eve of the start of the season. McDavid will count \$12.5 million against the cap from 2026-28, the same average salary he has had since 2019. McDavid will not even be the highest-paid player on his own team, settling for more than \$1 million a year less than Leon Draisaitl. McDavid's deal approach the richest contract in league history agreed to last week when the Wild signed Kirill Kaprizov for \$136 million over eight years. Kaprizov's annual salary will be \$17 million when his contract kicks in. Instead, McDavid took a much shorter-term deal, which keeps the heat on ownership and the front office to put together a roster that can win it all. The Oilers have reached the final each of the last two years before losing to the Panthers.

Down 2-0, Mercury hope home helps



Mercury coach Nate Tibbets was critical of his team's defense after allowing the Aces to average 90 points through the first two games of the WNBA Finals. Defense isn't the Mercury's only problem as they head home. Down 2-0 after a 91-78 loss on Sunday, the Mercury need to rediscover their bench and 3-point touch in Games 3 and 4. Kahleah Copper finished with 23 points on 50% shooting Sunday, while Satou Sabally had 22 points and Alyssa Thomas scored 10. But the rest of the team totaled just 23 points, with only eight coming from the Mercury reserves. "I'm super confident in that group, they've helped carry us all season long," Tibbets said. "... We believe in each other. But again, we're here because of our defense. ... We have to be better at the defensive end." That part is true, as the Mercury have allowed the Aces to shoot 47.7% (52 of 109) from the floor, including 13 of 37 (35.1%) from 3-point range. The Mercury have shot just 40.7% (42 of 103) from the floor since halftime of the series opener, including a bleak 23.4% (11 of 47) from 3-point range. —Associated Press

NHL

Age old question answered

Twilight of careers? Not quite, some stars still shining bright

By Stephen Whyno
Associated Press

Hockey is a usually a young man's game. Don't tell that to Sidney Crosby, Alex Ovechkin, Brad Marchand, Corey Perry and so many others who are still on top of the NHL in their late 30s and beyond. Crosby produced at a point-a-game pace last season at 37, the same age March and was when he scored six goals in the Stanley Cup Final to help the Panthers repeat against the Oilers, who counted 40-year-old Corey Perry as one of their better players. Alex Ovechkin broke Wayne Gretzky's NHL career goals record at 39 and should surpass the 900 mark early this season at 40. Thanks to changes in sports science, training and technology over the last 20-plus years, the window for stars to remain in their prime is getting longer and longer. And it's only making the sport better. "We're coming into an age of that," Panthers coach Paul Maurice said. "The science that's changed over the last 20 years will allow these players to recover faster. ... They're better fit, conditioned athletes over their entire lives." Maurice credited owners for investing a tremendous amount of money and resources into player care. His team is on the leading edge of recovery methods at all ages, which is a big part of why the league's southernmost team is going for a threepeat.

Looking for an edge

Red Wings forward Patrick Kane is set to turn 37 in November and is on pace this season to pass Mike Modano for the most points by a U.S.-born player. He was the first pick in the 2007 draft, three months before this year's No. 1 choice, Matthew Schaefer, was born. A three-time Cup champion with the Blackhawks, Kane credits his and others' longevity to a decision that there is no longer an offseason. "It's incredible the way the guys are almost treating it like a full-year job," Kane said. "Everyone's trying to find that edge, whether it's nutrition or what you do in the summer, how you train, how you recover. Everyone seems to be doing something." Sam Reinhart saw that in Crosby and Marchand at Canada's Olympic orientation camp when they "made it look easy." The soon-to-be 30-year-old found it inspiring. "It's motivating that if you take care of yourself, you work hard, you train, you know when you're a bit younger, there's no reason you can't be at your best when you are a little bit older," Reinhart said. "It doesn't look like they are slowing down anytime soon. They're both machines in the gym and both looking as young and agile as ever."



At 37, Brad Marchand played a key role last season in helping the Panthers claim their second straight Stanley Cup title. STEPH CHAMBERS/GETTY

Work, and a little luck

Lightning captain Victor Hedman is on the younger side of this curve with his 35th birthday approaching in December, and yet at 6-foot-7 and 244 pounds, he is still among the best defensemen in the NHL. Hedman should make his Olympic debut for Sweden in February. Hedman has been healthy for much of his career and stayed durable. He played between 76 and all 82 games over each of the last four seasons. "I've been blessed not being hurt too much, but that's training going into that," Hedman said. "It's a combination of a lot of things. The sports science, you can get so much data of what you need at certain points of the season, so that helps a lot. ... But I think it's

just knowing your body and trying to keep up with these young kids because the game is getting faster and faster." Ovechkin caught and passed Gretzky in large part because he is almost never injured. The Capitals' captain missed 16 games with a broken leg and still got the job done. "That's one of the things that he'll be remembered by is a lot of people talk about his durability as a player and not getting hurt," Caps coach Spencer Carbery said. Playoffs are when the old dogs thrive. Maurice acknowledged a quarter-century after the fact that scratching eventual future Hall of Famer Paul Coffey in the Hurricanes' playoff opener in 1999 was a mistake. Coffey was one of the team's best players on the ice in Game 2, and that provided a valuable lesson on the way to back-to-back titles.

"These older players view the playoffs differently. They understand," Maurice said. "Older guys have a perspective that young players don't. Young players can be great, but I think you can almost be assured that you're going to get the very best out of your older players in playoffs." Marchand, who rode the exercise bike in Edmonton prior to his double-overtime Game 2-winning goal in the final, has been a clutch performer his entire career in Crosby's eyes. But the player known as "Sid the Kid" subscribes to Maurice's theory about coming up big in the biggest moments. "Definitely in the playoffs, I think that experience, that type of game probably lends itself to older guys who have been through it and understand it," Crosby said. "We need us older guys to keep going."

ON THE NFL

Preventable blunders end up turning the tide in games

By Rob Maaddi
Associated Press

Sunday was filled with sloppy football and silly mistakes. Another NFL player gave away a touchdown by carelessly dropping the ball before he crossed the goal line. A roughing-the-kicker penalty erased a touchdown return in a different game. The most egregious play of Week 5 occurred when Cardinals running back Emari Demercado turned a 72-yard touchdown run into a touchback by slowing down near the goal line and releasing the ball as Titans cornerback L'Jarius Sneed swiped at his arm. Officials initially ruled it a touchdown but a video review showed Demercado didn't have possession when he entered the end zone.

Instead of adding to the Cardinals' 21-6 lead, Demercado's gaffe kept the Titans in the game. Teammate Dadrion Taylor-Demerson then gave the Titans a chance to win after he intercepted Cam Ward's pass but fumbled while falling to the ground in a wild play that resulted in a touchdown for the Titans. Receiver Tyler Lockett fell on the loose ball in the end zone, cutting the Cardinals' lead to 21-19 with 4:51 left. Joey Slye made a 29-yard field goal as time expired and the Titans beat the Cardinals to snap a 10-game losing streak. Last week, Colts receiver Adonai Mitchell committed the same costly miscue as Demercado, which makes the latest blunder even more inexcusable because it should have been on the forefront of every player's mind. Mitchell held the ball out as he

neared the goal line and lost control of it for a touchback, negating what would have been a spectacular 76-yard touchdown reception against the Rams in a 27-20 loss. "I just made a mistake. Really no excuse," Demercado told reporters. "Obviously emotional. "Big play. I just got to be smarter."

Penalty fest

A penalty flag wasn't thrown on every big play this week, but it seemed that way in several games. The worst may have been the roughing-the-kicker call on Chargers reserve linebacker Marlowe Wax that wiped out a 57-yard punt return TD by Ladd McConkey late in the second quarter. The Chargers led the Commanders 10-7 at the time. The penalty allowed the

Commanders to retain possession and they ended up with a tying field goal on the drive on the way to a 27-10 win. The Chargers were one of 10 teams that had at least nine penalties. Those teams went 4-6. "It's on us to fix that," Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert said. "You can't expect to win games like that when you're having penalties like that." The Patriots gave the Bills 30 yards on consecutive plays after taking a 20-10 lead in the fourth quarter. After a roughing-the-passer penalty, James Cook was stopped for a 4-yard loss on an excellent play by Harold Landry. But Joshua Farmer inexplicably drilled him seconds after the whistle. Josh Allen tossed a TD pass a few plays later but the Patriots ended up handing the Bills their first loss, 23-20.